

Leading Order Neutralino Calculation

Carl Martin Fevang

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Abstract

Here, I will outline the calculation of neutralino pair production from proton–proton collisions at parton level to leading order.

0.1 Kinematics

At parton level, only quark–antiquark interactions can produce neutralinos to leading order. Thereby, the only contributing process is $q(p_1)\bar{q}(p_2) \rightarrow \tilde{\chi}_i^0(p_i)\tilde{\chi}_j^0(p_j)$. With a process such as this where there are only two initial momenta and two final momenta, the entire kinematic process is confined to a plane, and the four-momenta can be parametrised as

$$p_1 = \left(\frac{\sqrt{\hat{s}}}{2}, 0, 0, \frac{\sqrt{\hat{s}}}{2} \right) \quad p_2 = \left(\frac{\sqrt{\hat{s}}}{2}, 0, 0, -\frac{\sqrt{\hat{s}}}{2} \right) \quad (1a)$$

$$p_i = (E_i, p \sin \theta, 0, p \cos \theta) \quad p_j = (E_j, -p \sin \theta, 0, -p \cos \theta), \quad (1b)$$

where $p^2 = E_i^2 - m_i^2 = E_j^2 - m_j^2$ and $E_i + E_j = \sqrt{\hat{s}}$. These constraints lead to

$$E_{i,j} = \frac{\hat{s} + m_{i,j}^2 - m_{j,i}^2}{2\sqrt{\hat{s}}}, \quad (2a)$$

$$p^2 = \frac{\hat{s}}{4} - \frac{m_i^2 + m_j^2}{2} + \frac{(m_i^2 - m_j^2)^2}{4\hat{s}}, \quad (2b)$$

such that only two independent parameters define the interaction: \hat{s} and θ . For convenience, I will use the Mandelstam variables¹ defined as

$$\hat{s} = (p_1 + p_2)^2 = (p_i + p_j)^2, \quad (3a)$$

$$\hat{t} = (p_1 - p_i)^2 = (p_2 - p_j)^2, \quad (3b)$$

$$\hat{u} = (p_1 - p_j)^2 = (p_2 - p_i)^2. \quad (3c)$$

$$(3d)$$

Under the constraint $\hat{s} + \hat{t} + \hat{u} = m_i^2 + m_j^2$, we still only have two degrees of freedom like before.

0.2 Matrix elements

The only contributing matrix elements at leading order are visualised in Fig. 1.

¹Perhaps cite this.

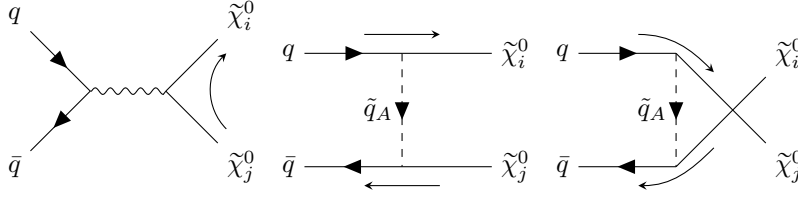


Figure 1: The tree-level diagrams contributing to neutralino pair production.

Using the Feynman rules from [reference here](#) we get the matrix elements

$$\mathcal{M}_{\hat{s}} = -\frac{g^2}{2c_W^2} D_Z(\hat{s}) \left[\bar{u}_i \gamma^\mu (O_{ij}^{\prime L} P_L + O_{ij}^{\prime R} P_R) v_j \right] \times \left[\bar{v}_2 \gamma_\mu (C_{Zqq}^L P_L + C_{Zqq}^R P_R) u_1 \right], \quad (4a)$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{\hat{t}} = -\sum_A 2g^2 D_{\tilde{q}_A}(\hat{t}) \left[\bar{u}_i \left(C_{\tilde{\chi}_i^0 \tilde{q}_A q}^{L*} P_L + C_{\tilde{\chi}_i^0 \tilde{q}_A q}^{R*} P_R \right) u_1 \right] \times \left[\bar{v}_2 \left(C_{\tilde{\chi}_j^0 \tilde{q}_A q}^R P_L + C_{\tilde{\chi}_j^0 \tilde{q}_A q}^L P_R \right) v_j \right], \quad (4b)$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{\hat{u}} = -\sum_B 2g^2 D_{\tilde{q}_B}(\hat{u}) \left[\bar{u}_j \left(C_{\tilde{\chi}_j^0 \tilde{q}_B q}^{L*} P_L + C_{\tilde{\chi}_j^0 \tilde{q}_B q}^{R*} P_R \right) u_1 \right] \times \left[\bar{v}_2 \left(C_{\tilde{\chi}_i^0 \tilde{q}_B q}^R P_L + C_{\tilde{\chi}_i^0 \tilde{q}_B q}^L P_R \right) v_i \right]. \quad (4c)$$

Here I denote boson propagators

$$D_b(q^2) = \frac{1}{q^2 - m_b^2 (+im_b \Gamma_b)},$$

where m_b is the mass of the boson b and Γ_b is its decay rate (which I will optionally include if stated). Fermion spinors u_a, v_a are used as a shorthand for $u(p_a), v(p_a)$ with $a \in 1, 2, i, j$.

0.3 Cross-section

The differential cross-section for the process $q(p_1)\bar{q}(p_2) \rightarrow \tilde{\chi}_i^0(p_i)\tilde{\chi}_j^0(p_j)$ can be found by

$$d\sigma = \frac{1}{4E_1 E_2 |\mathbf{v}_1 - \mathbf{v}_2|} |\mathcal{M}|^2 d\Pi_{\text{LIPS}}, \quad (5)$$

where $\mathbf{v}_a = \mathbf{p}_a/E_a$ and $d\Pi_{\text{LIPS}}$ is the Lorentz-invariant phase space differential of the final state particles. For massless initial state particles in the centre-of-mass frame, it reduces to

$$d\sigma = \frac{1}{2\hat{s}} |\mathcal{M}|^2 d\Pi_{\text{LIPS}}. \quad (6)$$

Now, to look at the square of the matrix elements. Summing over the spins and taking symmetry factors into account, we have at tree-level

$$|M_0|^2 = \frac{1}{4N_C} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)^{\delta_{ij}} \sum_{\text{spins}} |\mathcal{M}_s + \mathcal{M}_t - \mathcal{M}_u|^2, \quad (7)$$

where the factor of $\frac{1}{4N_C}$ comes from averaging over initial state spins and colours and the factor of $\frac{1}{2}$ is a symmetry factor which is included if the final state particles are identical. The Relative Sign of Interfering Feynman graphs (RSIF) is due to even or

odd permutations of external spinors. We can then define the differential cross-section as

$$d\sigma = \frac{1}{8N_C} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{\delta_{ij}} \frac{1}{\hat{s}} (I_{\hat{s}\hat{s}} + I_{\hat{t}\hat{t}} + I_{\hat{u}\hat{u}} + 2I_{\hat{s}\hat{t}} - 2I_{\hat{s}\hat{u}} - 2I_{\hat{t}\hat{u}}) d\Pi_{\text{LIPS}}, \quad (8)$$

where $I_{\hat{m}\hat{n}} = \sum_{\text{spins}} \text{Re} \{ \mathcal{M}_{\hat{m}}^* \mathcal{M}_{\hat{n}} \}$, $\hat{m}, \hat{n} \in \hat{s}, \hat{t}, \hat{u}$.

Defining $\hat{t}_{i,j} = \hat{t} - m_{i,j}^2$, $\hat{u}_{i,j} = \hat{u} - m_{i,j}^2$, we have

$$I_{\hat{s}\hat{s}} = \frac{g^4}{c_W^4} |D_Z(\hat{s})|^2 \left((C_{Zqq}^L)^2 + (C_{Zqq}^R)^2 \right) \left\{ |O_{ij}^{\prime\prime L}|^2 (\hat{t}_i \hat{t}_j + \hat{u}_i \hat{u}_j) - 2 \text{Re} \left\{ (O_{ij}^{\prime\prime L})^2 \right\} m_i m_j \hat{s} \right\} \quad (9a)$$

$$I_{\hat{t}\hat{t}} = \sum_{A,B} 4g^4 D_{\bar{q}A}^*(\hat{t}) D_{\bar{q}B}(\hat{t}) \left(C_{\tilde{\chi}_i^0 \bar{q}Aq}^L C_{\tilde{\chi}_i^0 \bar{q}Bq}^{L*} + C_{\tilde{\chi}_i^0 \bar{q}Aq}^R C_{\tilde{\chi}_i^0 \bar{q}Bq}^{R*} \right) \times \left(C_{\tilde{\chi}_j^0 \bar{q}Aq}^L C_{\tilde{\chi}_j^0 \bar{q}Bq}^{L*} + C_{\tilde{\chi}_j^0 \bar{q}Aq}^R C_{\tilde{\chi}_j^0 \bar{q}Bq}^{R*} \right) \hat{t}_i \hat{t}_j \quad (9b)$$

$$I_{\hat{u}\hat{u}} = \sum_{A,B} 4g^4 D_{\bar{q}A}^*(\hat{u}) D_{\bar{q}B}(\hat{u}) \left(C_{\tilde{\chi}_i^0 \bar{q}Aq}^L C_{\tilde{\chi}_i^0 \bar{q}Bq}^{L*} + C_{\tilde{\chi}_i^0 \bar{q}Aq}^R C_{\tilde{\chi}_i^0 \bar{q}Bq}^{R*} \right) \times \left(C_{\tilde{\chi}_j^0 \bar{q}Aq}^L C_{\tilde{\chi}_j^0 \bar{q}Bq}^{L*} + C_{\tilde{\chi}_j^0 \bar{q}Aq}^R C_{\tilde{\chi}_j^0 \bar{q}Bq}^{R*} \right) \hat{u}_i \hat{u}_j \quad (9c)$$

$$I_{\hat{s}\hat{t}} = \sum_A \frac{2g^4}{c_W^2} \text{Re} \{ D_Z^*(\hat{s}) D_{\bar{q}A}(\hat{t}) \} \left[\left(Q_{\hat{s}\hat{t}}^{L*LL^*L} + Q_{\hat{s}\hat{t}}^{R*RR^*R} \right) m_i m_j \hat{s} - \left(Q_{\hat{s}\hat{t}}^{L*LLL} + Q_{\hat{s}\hat{t}}^{R*RRR} \right) \hat{t}_i \hat{t}_j \right] \quad (9d)$$

$$I_{\hat{s}\hat{u}} = \sum_A \frac{2g^4}{c_W^2} \text{Re} \{ D_Z^*(\hat{s}) D_{\bar{q}A}(\hat{u}) \} \left[\left(Q_{\hat{s}\hat{u}}^{LL^*LL} + Q_{\hat{s}\hat{u}}^{RR^*RR} \right) m_i m_j \hat{s} - \left(Q_{\hat{s}\hat{u}}^{LL^*L^*L} + Q_{\hat{s}\hat{u}}^{RR^*R^*R} \right) \hat{u}_i \hat{u}_j \right] \quad (9e)$$

$$I_{\hat{t}\hat{u}} = \sum_{A,B} 4g^4 \text{Re} \{ D_{\bar{q}A}^*(\hat{u}) D_{\bar{q}A}(\hat{t}) \} \left[\left(Q_{\hat{t}\hat{u}}^{L*LL^*L} + Q_{\hat{t}\hat{u}}^{R*RR^*R} \right) m_i m_j \hat{s} + \left(Q_{\hat{t}\hat{u}}^{R*LL^*R} + Q_{\hat{t}\hat{u}}^{L*RR^*L} \right) (\hat{t}_i \hat{t}_j + \hat{u}_i \hat{u}_j - \hat{s}(\hat{s} - m_i^2 - m_j^2)) \right] \quad (9f)$$

$$Q_{\hat{t}\hat{u}}^{MNOP} = C_{\tilde{\chi}_i^0 \bar{q}Aq}^M C_{\tilde{\chi}_j^0 \bar{q}Aq}^N C_{\tilde{\chi}_i^0 \bar{q}Bq}^O C_{\tilde{\chi}_j^0 \bar{q}Bq}^P, \quad M, N, O, P \in \{L, R, L^*, R^*\}.$$

1 Fierz identities

Introducing first the generalised gamma matrices Γ_I^r defined in the following way:

$$\Gamma_S^0 = \mathbb{1}, \quad (10a)$$

$$\Gamma_V^{0,\dots,3} = \gamma^\mu, \quad (10b)$$

$$\Gamma_T^{0,\dots,5} = \sigma^{\mu\nu}, \quad (\mu < \nu) \quad (10c)$$

$$\Gamma_A^{0,\dots,3} = \gamma^\mu \gamma^5, \quad (10d)$$

$$\Gamma_P^0 = \gamma^5, \quad (10e)$$

where $\sigma^{\mu\nu} = \frac{i}{2} [\gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu]$ and $\gamma^5 = i\gamma^0\gamma^1\gamma^2\gamma^3$. The upper index r is understood to be summed over if it is repeated in an expression, while the index I is only summed over when explicitly stated. The complement $\Gamma_{I,r}$ is found by lowering any Lorentz index in

the standard way. The generalised Fierz identity then tells us that for spinors w_1, \dots, w_4 that can either be positive energy spinors u or negative energy spinors v , we have that

$$(\bar{w}_1 \Gamma_I^r w_2) (\bar{w}_3 \Gamma_J^s w_4) = \sum_{M,N} {}^{IJ}_{rs} C_{tu}^{MN} (\bar{w}_1 \Gamma_M^t w_4) (\bar{w}_3 \Gamma_N^u w_2), \quad (11)$$

with numerical coefficients ${}^{IJ}_{rs} C_{tu}^{MN}$. The coefficients are found by

$${}^{IJ}_{rs} C_{tu}^{MN} = \frac{1}{16} \text{Tr} [\Gamma_{M,t} \Gamma_I^r \Gamma_{N,u} \Gamma_J^s] \quad (12)$$

The Fierz transformation matrix F is given by²

$$F = \frac{1}{4} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & \frac{1}{2} & -1 & 1 \\ 4 & -2 & 0 & -2 & -4 \\ 12 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 12 \\ -4 & -2 & 0 & -2 & 4 \\ 1 & -1 & \frac{1}{2} & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (13)$$

in the bilinear product basis

$$q_S(1234) = (\bar{w}_1 w_2) (\bar{w}_3 w_4) \quad (14a)$$

$$q_V(1234) = (\bar{w}_1 \gamma^\mu w_2) (\bar{w}_3 \gamma_\mu w_4) \quad (14b)$$

$$q_T(1234) = (\bar{w}_1 \sigma^{\mu\nu} w_2) (\bar{w}_3 \sigma_{\mu\nu} w_4) \quad (14c)$$

$$q_A(1234) = (\bar{w}_1 \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 w_2) (\bar{w}_3 \gamma_\mu \gamma^5 w_4) \quad (14d)$$

$$q_P(1234) = (\bar{w}_1 \gamma^5 w_2) (\bar{w}_3 \gamma^5 w_4) \quad (14e)$$

$$(14f)$$

where a vector \mathbf{q} is given by

$$\mathbf{q}(abcd) = \sum_{i=1}^5 n_i \mathbf{e}_i, \quad (15)$$

for some coefficients n_i and with the canonical unit vectors $\{\mathbf{e}_i\} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix}, \dots \right\}$.

The Dirac quadrilinear \mathbf{q} represents is found by the sum

$$\sum_{i=0}^5 n_i q_{B_i}(abcd), \quad (16)$$

where $B_i = S, V, T, A, P$.

The Fierz transformation swapping the indices $2 \leftrightarrow 4$ can be found by

$$\mathbf{q}(1234) = F \mathbf{q}(1432) \quad (17)$$

2 Factorisation

$$\begin{aligned} & [\bar{u}_i (C_i^{L*} P_L + C_i^{R*} P_R) u_1] [\bar{v}_2 (C_j^R P_L + C_j^L P_R) v_j] \\ &= C_{SS} [\bar{u}_i u_1] [\bar{v}_2 v_j] + C_{SP} [\bar{u}_i u_1] [\bar{v}_2 \gamma^5 v_j] \\ & \quad + C_{PS} [\bar{u}_i \gamma^5 u_1] [\bar{v}_2 v_j] + C_{PP} [\bar{u}_i \gamma^5 u_1] [\bar{v}_2 \gamma^5 v_j], \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

²Jose F. Nieves and Palash B. Pal. “Generalized Fierz identities”. In: *Am. J. Phys.* 72 (2004), pp. 1100–1108. DOI: 10.1119/1.1757445. arXiv: hep-ph/0306087.

where we have

$$C_{SS} = \frac{1}{4} (C_i^{L*} + C_i^{R*}) (C_j^L + C_j^R) \quad (19a)$$

$$C_{SP} = \frac{1}{4} (C_i^{L*} + C_i^{R*}) (C_j^L - C_j^R) \quad (19b)$$

$$C_{PS} = -\frac{1}{4} (C_i^{L*} - C_i^{R*}) (C_j^L + C_j^R) \quad (19c)$$

$$C_{PP} = -\frac{1}{4} (C_i^{L*} - C_i^{R*}) (C_j^L - C_j^R) \quad (19d)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[\bar{u}_i \left(C_{\tilde{\chi}_i^0 \tilde{q}_{Aq}}^L P_L + C_{\tilde{\chi}_i^0 \tilde{q}_{Aq}}^{R*} P_R \right) u_1 \right] \left[\bar{v}_2 \left(C_{\tilde{\chi}_j^0 \tilde{q}_{Aq}}^R P_L + C_{\tilde{\chi}_j^0 \tilde{q}_{Aq}}^L P_R \right) v_j \right] \\ &= C_{\tilde{\chi}_i^0 \tilde{q}_{Aq}}^{L*} C_{\tilde{\chi}_j^0 \tilde{q}_{Aq}}^R \left[\frac{1}{2} (\bar{u}_i P_L v_j) (\bar{v}_2 P_L u_1) + \frac{1}{8} (\bar{u}_i \sigma^{\mu\nu} v_j) (\bar{v}_2 \sigma_{\mu\nu} P_L u_1) \right] \\ &+ C_{\tilde{\chi}_i^0 \tilde{q}_{Aq}}^{L*} C_{\tilde{\chi}_j^0 \tilde{q}_{Aq}}^L \left[\frac{1}{2} (\bar{u}_i \gamma^\mu P_R v_j) (\bar{v}_2 \gamma_\mu P_L u_1) \right] \\ &+ C_{\tilde{\chi}_i^0 \tilde{q}_{Aq}}^{R*} C_{\tilde{\chi}_j^0 \tilde{q}_{Aq}}^R \left[\frac{1}{2} (\bar{u}_i \gamma^\mu P_L v_j) (\bar{v}_2 \gamma_\mu P_R u_1) \right] \\ &+ C_{\tilde{\chi}_i^0 \tilde{q}_{Aq}}^{R*} C_{\tilde{\chi}_j^0 \tilde{q}_{Aq}}^L \left[\frac{1}{2} (\bar{u}_i P_R v_j) (\bar{v}_2 P_R u_1) + \frac{1}{8} (\bar{u}_i \sigma^{\mu\nu} v_j) (\bar{v}_2 \sigma_{\mu\nu} P_R u_1) \right] \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & - \frac{4}{\sqrt{-m_i^2 + m_j^2 + 2m_j\sqrt{s} + s} \sqrt{m_i^2 + 2m_i\sqrt{s} - m_j^2 + s}} \\ & \cdot \left(4m_i^3 m_j \cos(\theta) + 8m_i^2 m_j^2 \cos(\theta) + 4m_i^2 m_j \sqrt{s} \cos(\theta) - m_i^2 \sqrt{-m_i^2 - 2m_i m_j - m_j^2 + s} \sqrt{-m_i^2 + 2m_i m_j - m_j^2 + s} \right) \end{aligned}$$