$\nu_{\mu}e$ cross-section error propagation

Shih-Kai Lin

Let $\sin^2\theta_W=x$ and ignore the multiplicative term $\frac{G_F^2m_eE_\nu}{2\pi}$, we want to know the standard deviation in $f=1-4x+\frac{16}{3}x^2$. The error propagation formula reads

$$\sigma_f^2 = \left(\left. \frac{df}{dx} \right|_{x = x_0} \right)^2 \sigma_x^2 \tag{1}$$

where x_0 is the central value of x.

Given $x_0 = 0.23126$ and $\sigma_x = 2.2 \times 10^{-4}$, $f'(x_0) = -1.5332267$, and

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \sigma_f^2 & = & (-1.5332267)^2 \times (2.2 \times 10^{-4})^2 \\ & = & 0.000000117 \\ \Rightarrow \sigma_f & = & 0.000341731 \end{array}$$

Given $f(x_0) = 0.360193001$, the relative uncertainty in f is $\frac{\sigma_f}{f(x_0)} = 0.09\%$.