

Therefore

$$\sum_{\lambda} |\mathcal{M}_{\beta}| = \frac{4(Qe)^2}{\mathbf{k}^2}. \quad (\text{E.25})$$

E.2.3 Soft Photon Approximation, Massless Dijet

Compute electron (mass $m = 0$) beta decay starting with Eq. (F.84),

$$i\mathcal{M} = \bar{u}(p) [\mathcal{M}_0(p, P)] u(P) \cdot \left[Qe \left(\frac{p \cdot \epsilon^*}{p \cdot k} - \frac{P \cdot \epsilon^*}{P \cdot k} \right) \right]. \quad (\text{E.26})$$

We will want to exploit the replacement $\sum \epsilon_{\mu} \epsilon_{\nu}^* \rightarrow -g_{\mu\nu}$ so we will have to preserve the Ward identity (charge conservation),

$$k_{\mu} \left(\frac{p^{\mu}}{k \cdot p} - \frac{P^{\mu}}{k \cdot P} \right) = 0. \quad (\text{E.27})$$

To do so we will have to keep the second term explicitly with $P_M \simeq [M, M, 0, 0]$ being the momentum of the “proton” after (as well as before) beta emission. Then (essentially Eq. (F.86)),

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\lambda} |\mathcal{M}|^2 &= (Qe)^2 (-g_{\mu\nu}) \left(\frac{p^{\mu}}{k \cdot p} - \frac{P_M^{\mu}}{k \cdot P_M} \right) \left(\frac{p^{\nu}}{k \cdot p} - \frac{P_M^{\nu}}{k \cdot P_M} \right) \\ &= (Qe)^2 \left(\frac{2p \cdot P_M}{(k \cdot p)(k \cdot P_M)} - \frac{M^2}{(k \cdot P_M)^2} - \frac{m^2}{(k \cdot p)^2} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (\text{E.28})$$
