

Problem 2.1

Calculate the ratio of the gravitational attraction to the electrical repulsion between two stationary electrons. (Do I need to tell you how far apart they are?)

solution

$$F_g = \frac{Gm_e^2}{r^2}$$

$$F_e = \frac{kq_e^2}{r^2}$$

$$F_g/F_e = \frac{Gm_e^2}{kq_e^2}$$

$$G = 6.67 \times 10^{-11} m^3 \cdot kg^{-1} \cdot s^{-2}, m_e = 9.1 \times 10^{-31} kg,$$
$$k = 8.98 \times 10^9 N \cdot m^2 \cdot C^{-2}, q_e = 1.6 \times 10^{-19} C$$

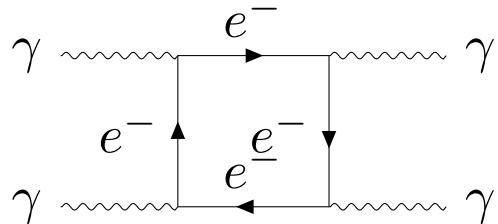
$$F_g/F_e = 2.4 \times 10^{-43}$$

No, the distance squares are canceled out.

Problem 2.2

Sketch the lowest-order Feynman diagram representing Delbrück scattering: $\gamma + \gamma \rightarrow \gamma + \gamma$. (This process, the scattering of light by light, has no analog in classical electrodynamics.)

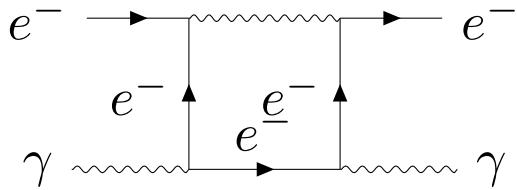
Solution



Problem 2.3

Draw all the fourth-order (four vertex) diagrams for Compton scattering. (There are 17 of them; disconnected diagrams don't count.)

Solution



(to be continued)

Problem 2.4

Determine the mass of the virtual photon in each of the lowest-order diagrams for Bhabha scattering (assume the electron and positron are at rest). What is its velocity?

(Note that these answers would be impossible for real photons.)

Solution

The mass of the virtual photon should be the mass of the electron + the positron.
 $2 \times 0.510 \text{ MeV}$.

The velocity would be the vector sum of the electron and positron's velocity by the momentum conservation.

Since the two particles were at rest, the virtual photon's velocity will be zero.

Problem 2.5

- (a) Which decay do you think would be more likely,

$$\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda + \pi^- \text{ or } \Xi^- \rightarrow n + \pi^-$$

Explain your answer, and confirm it by looking up the experimental data.

- (b) Which decay of the $D^0(c\bar{u})$ meson is most likely,

$$D^0 \rightarrow K^- + \pi^+, \quad D^0 \rightarrow \pi^- + \pi^+, \text{ or } D^0 \rightarrow K^+ + \pi^-$$

Which is least likely? Draw the Feynman diagrams, explain your answer and check the experimental data. (One of the successful predictions of the Cabibbo/GIM/KM model was that charmed mesons should decay preferentially into strange mesons, even though energetically the 2π mode is favored.)

- (c) How about the ‘beautiful’ (B) mesons? Should they go to the D ’s, K ’s, or π ’s?

Solution

- (a)

$\Xi^- = dss$: charge = -1, mass = 1321.3 and $\pi^- = d\bar{u}$: charge = -1, mass = 139.570 and $\Lambda = uds$: charge = 0, mass = 1115.68 , and $n = udd$: charge = 0, mass = 939.565