Electron - Positron Annihilation



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OUTLINE

- Electron-positron storage rings
- Detectors
- Reaction examples

 $e^+e^- \longrightarrow e^+e^-$

[Inventory of known particles] $e^+e^- \longrightarrow \mu^+\mu^$ $e^+e^- \longrightarrow q \bar{q}$ $e^+e^- \longrightarrow W^+W^-$

• The future: Linear colliders









Electron-Positron Colliders





Size (R) and Cost (\$) of an e^+e^- Storage Ring

$$\$ = \alpha R + \frac{\beta E^4}{R} \qquad (E = \text{beam energy})$$

Find minimum $\$: \qquad 0 = \frac{d \$}{dR} = \alpha - \frac{\beta E^4}{R^2}$
$$\implies \qquad R = \sqrt{\frac{\beta}{\alpha}} E^2, \qquad \$ = 2\sqrt{\alpha\beta} E^2$$

SPEAR: E = 8 GeV, R = 40 m, \$ = 5 millionLEP: E = 200 GeV, R = 4.3 km, \$ = 1 billion

E-dependence follows from dimensional analysis:

density =
$$\rho_{-}$$
 $\underbrace{\overbrace{\ell_{-}}^{\ell_{-}}}_{\ell_{-}}$ A $\underbrace{\overbrace{\ell_{+}}^{\ell_{+}}}_{\ell_{+}}$ density = ρ_{+}

Probability = $(\rho_{-} \rho_{+} \ell_{-} \ell_{+} A) \times (\text{something with units of length}^{2})$ When $E \gg m_{e}$, the only relevant length is $\frac{\hbar}{p} = \frac{\hbar c}{E}$ \implies Probability $\propto \frac{1}{E^{2}}$

$e^+e^- \longrightarrow e^+e^-$ at SPEAR

Augustin, et al., PRL 34, 233 (1975)

Prediction for $e^+e^- \longrightarrow e^+e^-$ event rate (H. J. Bhabha, 1935):

$$\begin{pmatrix} \text{event} \\ \text{rate} \end{pmatrix} \propto \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{e^4}{32\pi^2 E_{\text{cm}}^2} \left[\frac{1+\cos^4\frac{\theta}{2}}{\sin^4\frac{\theta}{2}} - \frac{2\cos^4\frac{\theta}{2}}{\sin^2\frac{\theta}{2}} + \frac{1+\cos^2\theta}{2} \right]$$

Interpretation of Bhabha's formula (R. P. Feynman, 1949):

Each diagram represents a complex number that depends on E and θ . Each vertex represents a factor of the electron's charge, e = -0.303. Feynman Rules (neglecting spin, $\hbar = c = 1$)

Multiply pieces together, integrate over x and y...

Higher-Order Diagrams

 $\sum_{i=1}^{i} \left(+ \right) \left(-\frac{1}{2} + \right) \left(+ \frac{1}{2} + \frac{$ any charged particle! ("vacuum polarization")

More vertices \implies more factors of $e \implies$ smaller value

It Works!

THE PERIODIC TABLE

Particles like the electron (fermions, spin 1/2)

Leptons		Quarks (each in 3 "colors")		
e	$ u_e$	d	U	
$0.511 { m MeV}$	< 0.000003	7	3	
μ	$ u_{\mu}$	S	С	
106	< 0.2	120	1200	
au	$ u_{ au}$	b	t	
1777	< 20	4300	$175,\!000$	
-1	0	-1/3	2/3	$\leftarrow \text{charge}$

Particles like the photon (bosons, spin 1)

(Gravity is negligible.)

Example 2:
$$e^+e^- \longrightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$$

Only one diagram:

(Same as third term in Bhabha formula, provided that $E \gg m_{\mu}$.)

Example 3: $e^+e^- \longrightarrow q\bar{q} \longrightarrow hadrons$

For 10 GeV $< E_{\rm cm} < 40$ GeV,

2-Jet Hadronic Event

Angular Distribution

MAC detector (SLAC), 1986

Higher-order diagrams turn ∞ into smooth resonance curve.

Example 4:
$$e^+e^- \longrightarrow W^+W^-$$

• Requires $E_{\rm cm} > 2m_W = 160 \,\,{\rm GeV}$

• Direct measurement of m_W can be compared to indirect measurements:

• Corrections from higher-order diagrams must be included,

- Results disagree, typically by $\sim 1\%!$
- Simplest solution: new spin-0 "Higgs" particle, $m_h \lesssim 200 \text{ GeV}$

(Also needed to avoid nonsensical predictions at $E \gtrsim 1000 \text{ GeV}$)

Looking for the Higgs Particle(s)

- Tevatron (Fermilab, Chicago): $p\bar{p}$, $E_{\rm cm} = 2000 \text{ GeV}$
- Large Hadron Collider (CERN, Geneva): pp, $E_{\rm cm} = 14,000$ GeV, 2007

Discovery likely! Detailed study difficult.

- e^+e^- storage ring, $E_{\rm cm} = 500 + \,{\rm GeV}$? Too big, too expensive.
- e^+e^- linear collider

The Next Linear Collider

Suggested Reading

- Feynman, *QED: The Strange Theory of Light and Matter*
- Barnett, et al., The Charm of Strange Quarks
- Riordan, *The Hunting of the Quark*
- ParticleAdventure.org
- •physics.weber.edu/schroeder/feynman/