

## Cross section, Decay Rate, Phase Space, Amplitude

Below, the natural unit  $\hbar = c = 1$  is used throughout.  
Lorentz-invariant phase space:

$$\int d\Phi_n = \int \prod_i^n \left( \frac{d^3\vec{p}_i}{(2\pi)^3 2E_i} \right) (2\pi)^4 \delta^4\left(\sum_i^n p_i - P\right). \quad (1)$$

Here,  $E_i = \sqrt{\vec{p}_i^2 + m_i^2}$  is the energy of the particle  $i$  of mass  $m_i$ . Each particle has four-momentum  $p_i^\mu = (E_i, \vec{p}_i)$ . The total four-momentum of the  $n$ -body system is  $P^\mu$ .

Feynman Amplitude from the initial state  $i$  at  $t = -\infty$  to the final state  $f$  at  $t = \infty$ :

$$\mathcal{M}(i \rightarrow f) (2\pi)^4 \delta^4\left(\sum_i^n p_i - P\right) = \langle f, t = +\infty | i, t = -\infty \rangle = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \langle f | e^{-iHT} | i \rangle. \quad (2)$$

The convention is determined by the normalization of single particle states:

$$\langle \vec{p}_1 | \vec{p}_2 \rangle = (2\pi)^3 2E \delta^3(\vec{p}_1 - \vec{p}_2). \quad (3)$$

This normalization has an advantage of being Lorentz-invariant.

Differential Partial Decay Rate of a particle of mass  $M$  to the  $n$ -body final state  $f$ :

$$d\Gamma(i \rightarrow f) = \frac{1}{2M} |\mathcal{M}(i \rightarrow f)|^2 d\Phi_n, \quad (4)$$

where  $\mathcal{M}(i \rightarrow f)$  is the amplitude from the one-particle initial state  $i$  with four-momentum  $P^\mu = M(1, 0, 0, 0)$  in its rest frame to the  $n$ -body final state  $f$ . Partial Decay Rate (probability of decay of the particle in a particular decay mode per unit time) is obtained upon phase space integral:

$$\Gamma(i \rightarrow f) = \frac{1}{2M} \int |\mathcal{M}(i \rightarrow f)|^2 d\Phi_n. \quad (5)$$

Total Decay Rate of a particle:

$$\Gamma_i = \sum_f \Gamma(i \rightarrow f), \quad (6)$$

where all possible decay modes are summed up. The lifetime of the particle is given by

$$\tau_i = \frac{1}{\Gamma_i}. \quad (7)$$

One sometimes refers to a “partial lifetime” (a strange terminology),

$$\tau(i \rightarrow f) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(i \rightarrow f)}. \quad (8)$$

Branching Fraction into a specific decay mode  $f$  is given by

$$\text{BR}(i \rightarrow f) = \frac{\Gamma(i \rightarrow f)}{\Gamma_i} = \frac{\tau_i}{\tau(i \rightarrow f)}. \quad (9)$$

From  $N_0$  of the particle  $i$  at rest at  $t = 0$ , the remaining number of the particle at an arbitrary time  $t > 0$  is given by

$$N(t) = N_0 e^{-\Gamma_i t} = N_0 e^{-t/\tau_i}. \quad (10)$$

If the particle is moving, there is time dilation effect and the decay is correspondingly delayed:  $e^{-\gamma t/\tau_i}$  with  $\gamma = E/M$ .

Differential Cross Section (two-body to  $n$ -body):

$$d\sigma(i \rightarrow f) = \frac{1}{2s\bar{\beta}_i} |\mathcal{M}(i \rightarrow f)|^2 d\Phi_n, \quad (11)$$

where  $s = (k_1 + k_2)^2$ ,  $k_1^\mu$  and  $k_2^\mu$  are four-momenta of initial state particles 1 and 2,  $\mathcal{M}(i \rightarrow f)$  is the amplitude from the initial state  $i$  with particles 1 and 2 to the  $n$ -body final state  $f$ , and  $\bar{\beta}_i$  is defined by

$$\bar{\beta}_i = \sqrt{1 - 2(x_1 + x_2) + (x_1 - x_2)^2} \quad (12)$$

with  $x_1 = k_1^2/s = m_1^2/s$ ,  $x_2 = k_2^2/s = m_2^2/s$ .  $\bar{\beta}_i$  coincides with the velocity of the initial state particles  $\beta$  in the center-of-momentum frame if  $m_1 = m_2$ . Cross section (number of the scattering events per unit luminosity per unit time) is obtained upon phase space integral:

$$\sigma(i \rightarrow f) = \frac{1}{2s\bar{\beta}_i} \int |\mathcal{M}(i \rightarrow f)|^2 d\Phi_n. \quad (13)$$

Two-body phase space can be written in a particularly simple manner in the center-of-momentum frame:

$$d\Phi_2 = \frac{\bar{\beta}_f}{8\pi} \frac{d\cos\theta}{2} \frac{d\phi}{2\pi}, \quad (14)$$

where  $\theta$ ,  $\phi$  are polar and azimuthal angles of the momentum  $\vec{p}_1$  in the center-of-momentum frame, respectively, and  $\bar{\beta}_f$  is the analogous expression of Eq. (12) for the final state particles.