



Hands-on Start to MadGraph

1st Workshop on New Light Physics and Photon-beam Experiments, 03/08/2021

Yi-Ming Zhong (KICP, UChicago)

ymzhong@kicp.uchicago.edu

Slides available at https://github.com/ymzhong/mg5_aMC_tutorial

Who am I?

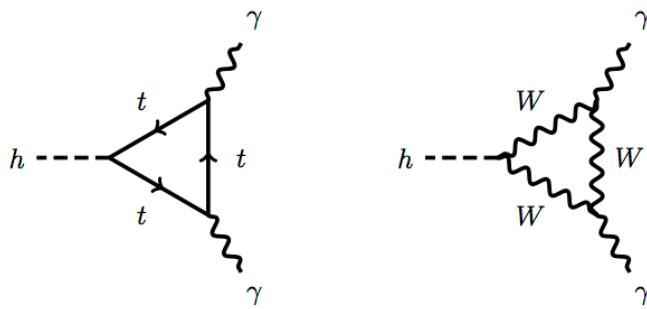
- Yiming Zhong is a postdoc fellow at Kavli Institute for Cosmological Physics at the University of Chicago.
- Working on theoretical particle physics, dark matter/dark sector searches.
- Not affiliated with the MadGraph team.
- Using MadGraph for years. Writing new physics models for it.

Goal for this tutorial

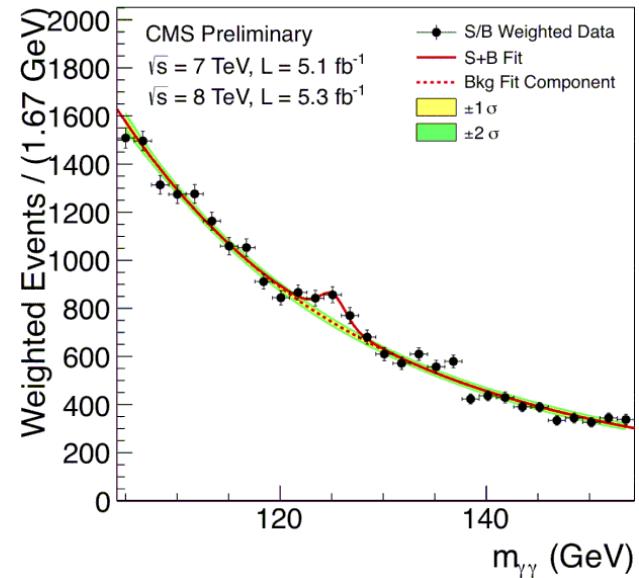
- What is MadGraph?
- Generate events for *tree-level* processes
- Play with outputs
- Add a form-factor for fixed-target processes

What is MadGraph?

EPJC 74 (2014) 3076



The Higgs discovery



The master formula

$$N = L\epsilon\sigma \sim L\epsilon \int d\Phi |{\mathcal M}|^2$$

efficiency

Event Integrated luminosity cross section

Phase space Matrix element

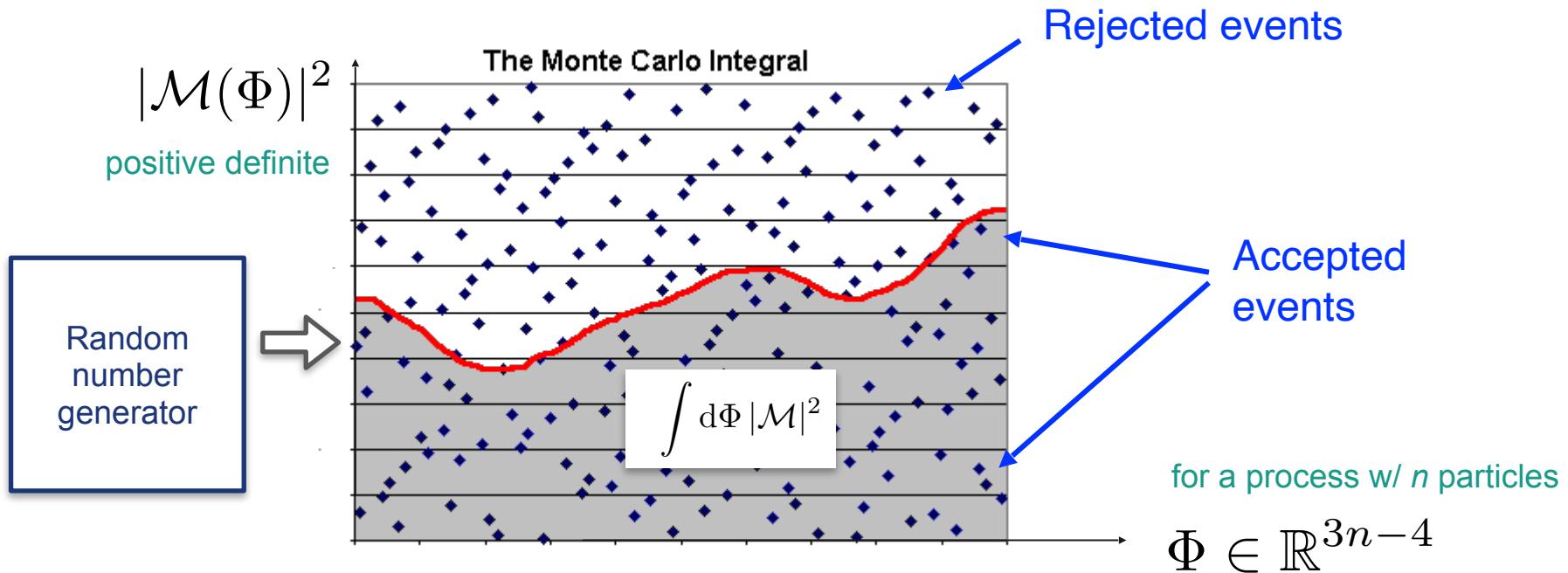
Feyn Rules

Monte-Carlo Integral

The diagram illustrates the components of the master formula. At the top right, 'Feyn Rules' is shown above a downward-pointing arrow. Below the arrow is the matrix element $|{\mathcal M}|^2$. To the left of the integral symbol is the cross section σ , with 'Integrated luminosity' and 'cross section' written below it. To the left of the entire formula is the efficiency ϵ , with 'Event' written below it. Below the integral symbol is the phase space $d\Phi$, with 'Phase space' written below it. A large upward-pointing arrow is positioned below the integral symbol, pointing towards the text 'Monte-Carlo Integral' at the bottom.

Integral

see [Sjöstrand's lectures](#) for more



What is MadGraph?

- **MadGraph5_aMC@NLO** (MG5_aMC) computes the matrix elements and generates Monte-Carlo events.
[Use helicity amplitudes](#)
[Use Multi Channel Monte-Carlo](#)
- + loop computation
- + interfaces with parton shower & hadronization event generators Pythia/
Herwig
- +

Just keep in mind, MG5_aMC

- Parton-level, fixed parton multiplicity, no control of large logs.
- Does not fully support polarized initial states.
- Is not good at sampling process with large t-channel cancellations. *
- Important to cross-check with other general event generators, such as [Pythia](#), [WHIZARD](#), [CalcHEP](#), or specific event generators, such as [esepp](#)

Useful resource

- MG5_aMC Launchpad (<https://launchpad.net/mg5amcnlo>) Q&A
- MG5_aMC Wiki (<https://cp3.irmp.ucl.ac.be/projects/madgraph>)
- ‘help’ command inside MG5_aMC

Installation

- Requirement: gcc & gfortran \geq 4.6, Python 2.7 or 3.7
- Setup/active suitable Python environment
`python --version`
- Download MG5_aMC at <https://launchpad.net/mg5amcnlo>
- If you use Python 2.6, download MG5_aMC_v2.7.3.tar.gz
at <https://launchpad.net/mg5amcnlo/+download>
- Untar and cd MG5_aMC folder

The screenshot shows the MG5_aMC download page on Launchpad.net. It features a sidebar with 'Get Involved' links: Report a bug, Ask a question, Register a blueprint, and Help translate. Below that is a 'Downloads' section. A green button labeled 'MG5_aMC_v2.9.2.tar.gz' is highlighted with a red oval, indicating it is the latest version (2.9.x). The button has a download icon. Below the button, text indicates it was released on 2021-01-30. At the bottom, there's a link to 'All downloads'.

Get Involved

- Report a bug
- Ask a question
- Register a blueprint
- Help translate

Downloads

Latest version is 2.9.x

MG5_aMC_v2.9.2.tar.gz

released on 2021-01-30

All downloads

What is inside?

```
$ls MG5_aMC_v2_9_2
```

HELAS
INSTALL
LICENSE
MadSpin

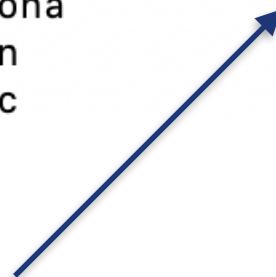
PLUGIN
README
Template
UpdateNotes.txt

VERSION
aloha
bin
doc

doc.tgz
input
madgraph
mg5decay

Where you add
your models

models
proc_card.dat
tests
vendor



Mg5_configuration: setup MG5 environment

First example: Bhabha Scattering at BaBar

1. Launch the interface

```
./bin/mg5_aMC or python3 ./bin/mg5_aMC
```

2. Load the Standard Model with massive electrons and muons

```
MG5_aMC>import model sm-full --modelname
```

3. Generate Bhabha Scattering

```
MG5_aMC>generate e+ [red]e-[red]>[red]e+[red]e-
```

4. Output

```
MG5_aMC>output newprocess
```

5. Launch

```
MG5_aMC>launch newprocess
```

Don't forget the "spaces"

Ask MG5 not to
change (BSM)
particle names

Change parameters in param_card and run_card

```
Do you want to edit a card (press enter to bypass editing)?  
/-----\  
| 1. param : param_card.dat |  
| 2. run   : run_card.dat |  
\-----/  
you can also  
- enter the path to a valid card or banner.  
- use the 'set' command to modify a parameter directly.  
The set option works only for param_card and run_card.  
Type 'help set' for more information on this command.  
- call an external program (ASperGE/MadWidth/...).  
Type 'help' for the list of available command  
[0, done, 1, param, 2, run, enter path][90s to answer]  
>|
```

```
>set aEWM1 = 132  
>set run_tag = BaBar  
>set ebeam1 = 5.5  
>set ebeam2 = 5.5  
>set ptl = 0  
>set etal = 5  
>set drll = 0  
>0
```

The web portal

file:///home/zym/Downloads/MG5_aMC_v2_9_2/newprocess/crossx.html

Results in the sm-full for $e^+ e^- \rightarrow e^+ e^-$

Run_card,
param_card
...

Available Results

Run	Collider	Banner	Cross section (pb)	Events	Data	Output	Action
run_01	$e^+ e^-$ 5.5 x 5.5 GeV	BaBar	$5.087e+07 \pm 8.5e+04$	10000	parton madevent	LHE	remove run launch detector simulation

[Main Page](#) Events zipped
in LHE format

Check the process

- main page > process information > html
- Better do it before launching the simulation

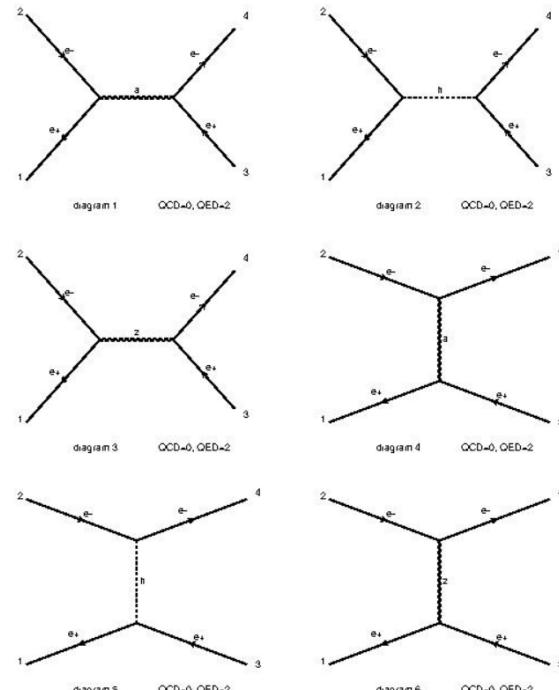
SubProcesses and Feynman diagrams

Directory	# Diagrams	# Subprocesses	FEYNMAN DIAGRAMS	SUBPROCESS
P1_epem_epem	6	1	html	$e^+ e^- \rightarrow e^+ e^-$

6 diagrams (6 independent).

[Postscript Diagrams for \$e^+ e^- \rightarrow e^+ e^-\$ WEIGHTED<=4 @1](#)

page 1/1





Contributions from different channels

s = 5.0865e+07 ± 8.54e+04 (pb)

Graph	Cross-Section ↓	Error	Events (K)	Unwgt	Luminosity
/home/zym/Downloads/MG5_aMC_v2_9_2/newprocess/SubProcesses/P1_epem_epem	5.087e+07	8.54e+04	247.194	13861.0	0

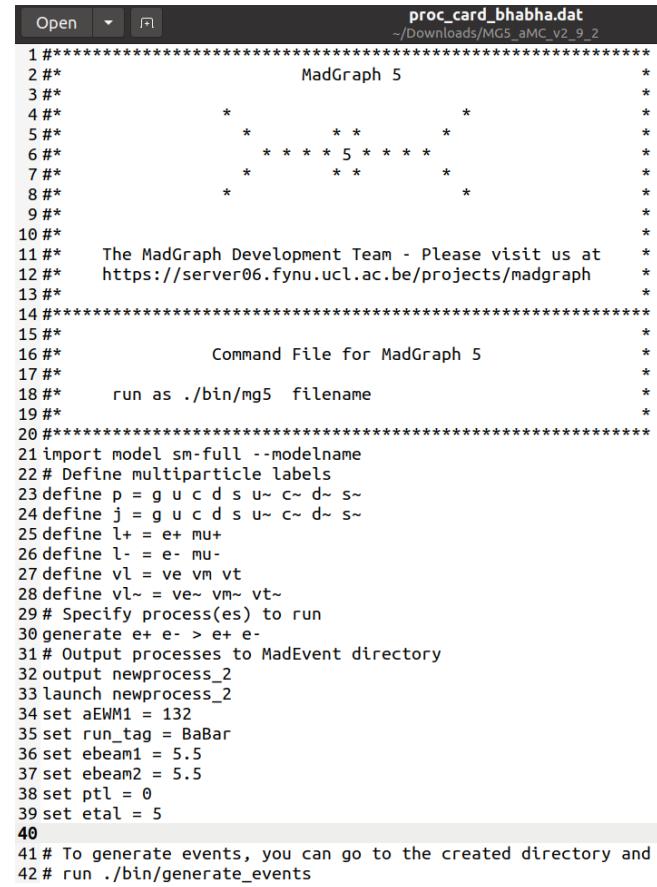
s = 5.0865e+07 ± 8.54e+04 (pb)

Graph	Cross-Section ↓	Error	Events (K)	Unwgt	Luminosity
G4	5.086e+07	8.54e+04	226.164	12730.0	0.00025
G2.2	4899	43.5	7.01	369.0	0.0753
G3.2	118.4	0.633	7.01	375.0	3.17
G1	22.02	0.156	7.01	387.0	17.6

- Contribution from each integration channels (see launchpad discussion*, **)
- The exact channel to diagram mapping can be found at
/MG5_aMC/newprocess/SubProcesses/config_subproc_map.inc

Run MG5_aMC wo the interface

- Put everything into a single file, then
 `./bin/mg5_aMC proc_card.dat`
- If you already output a directory, cd
 the folder and try
 `./bin/generate_events`
`proc_card.dat`
(only need commands after launch
command)



The screenshot shows a code editor window with the file 'proc_card_bhabha.dat' open. The file contains a command-line script for the MadGraph 5 framework. The code includes comments, variable definitions, and execution commands. The interface includes standard file operations like 'Open' and 'Save' at the top, and line numbers on the left.

```
1 #####*****#
2 ##*          MadGraph 5
3 ##*          *
4 ##*          *
5 ##*          *      * *      *
6 ##*          * * * * 5 * * * *
7 ##*          *      * *      *
8 ##*          *          *
9 ##*
10##*
11##*      The MadGraph Development Team - Please visit us at
12##*      https://server06.fynu.ucl.ac.be/projects/madgraph
13##*
14#####*****#
15##*
16##*          Command File for MadGraph 5
17##*
18##*      run as ./bin/mg5 filename
19##*
20#####
21import model sm-full --modelname
22# Define multiparticle labels
23define p = g u c d s u~ c~ d~ s~
24define j = g u c d s u~ c~ d~ s~
25define l+ = e+ mu+
26define l- = e- mu-
27define vl = ve vm vt
28define vl~ = ve~ vm~ vt~
29# Specify process(es) to run
30generate e+ e- > e+ e-
31# Output processes to MadEvent directory
32output newprocess_2
33launch newprocess_2
34set aEWMI1 = 132
35set run_tag = BaBar
36set ebeam1 = 5.5
37set ebeam2 = 5.5
38set ptl = 0
39set etal = 5
40
41# To generate events, you can go to the created directory and
42# run ./bin/generate_events
```

Parameter scan w/ MG5_aMC

- One parameters

```
set me scan:[0.1, 0.5 ,1]
set me scan:range(0.1,1,0.1)
set me scan:[0.001*i for i in range(100,105)]
```

- Can be extended for more parameters
- Two correlated parameters

```
set ebeam1 scan1:[4.5, 5., 5.5]
set ebeam2 scan1:[4.5, 5., 5.5]
```

- check cross sections from the scan

```
launch newprocess -i
print_results --path=./cross_section.txt --format=short
```

Exercise 1

- Generate Compton process $\gamma e^- \rightarrow \gamma e^-$ for a fixed-target photon-beam experiment with $E_\gamma = 100$ MeV and $\eta_{max} = 5$.

Q1: How to set up a fixed-target experiment?

Q2: Why we need a cut on the pseudo-rapidity?

- Generate Compton process $\gamma N \rightarrow \gamma N$ for a fixed-target photon-beam experiment with $E_\gamma = 10$ MeV and $\eta_{max} = 5$.

Q3: Nucleon is not defined in the model. How to get around?

More on the syntax: add process

- MG5_aMC>generate e+ e- > e+ e-
MG5_aMC>add process e+ e- > e+ e- a
MG5_aMC>add process e+ e- > e+ e- a a
MG5_aMC>display diagrams

More on the syntax: select process

- MG5_aMC>generate e+ e- > e+ e- /z h
(MG5_aMC>display diagrams)
remove diagrams w/ z, h
- MG5_aMC>generate e+ e- > z > e+ e-
only includes diagrams w/
s-channel z
- MG5_aMC>generate e+ e- > e+ e- \$\$ z h
remove diagrams w/
s-channel z, h
- MG5_aMC>generate e+ e- > e+ e- \$\$ z /h
remove diagrams w/
s-channel z and diagrams w/ h

More on the syntax: add the decay chain

Use , and ()

- MG5_aMC>generate e+ e- > z h, z > l+ l- **I+ = e+ mu+**
- MG5_aMC>generate e+ e- > z h, z > ta+ ta-, h > b b~
- MG5_aMC>generate e+ e- > z h, (z > ta+ ta-, ta+ > j j
vl~, ta- > l- vl vl~), h > b b~ **j = g u c d s u~ c~ d~ s~**
- MG5_aMC>generate e+ e- > z h, (z > ta+ ta-, ta+ > j j
vl~, (ta- > mu- vt vm~, mu- > all all all)), h > b b~

Want tau to decay to pions? add model taudecay_UFO

Alternative ways to perform the decays

- Use [MadSpin](#) MG5_aMC>generate e+ e- > z h

```
The following switches determine which programs are run:  
===== Description ======|===== values ======  
| 1. Choose the shower/hadronization program | shower = Not Avail.  
| 2. Choose the detector simulation program | detector = Not Avail.  
| 3. Choose an analysis package (plot/convert) | analysis = Not Avail.  
| 4. Decay onshell particles | madspin = ON  
| 5. Add weights to events for new hypp. | reweight = OFF  
=====
```

- Output to Pythia, let [Pythia do the decays](#)

The decays are always in isotropic way

- >decay h > b b~
>decay z > ta+ ta-
>decay ta+ > all all all
>decay ta- > all all all

Only include the decay channels that kinematically accessible!

More on the decays

- Using narrow width approximation
 - MG5_aMC>generate e+ e- > z h, z > l+ l-
 - MG5_aMC>generate e+ e- > z h then use MadSpin
>decay z > l+ l- Only includes on-shell contributions
- Not using narrow width approximation
MG5_aMC>generate e+ e- > l+ l- h Include non-resonant contributions

More on the decays

- What is the “`bwcutoff`” in `run_card`? Defines what means on-shell.
[Breit-Wigner](#)
 - A resonance is considered to be on-shell if the invariant mass is within [`mass - bwcutoff*width`, `mass + bwcutoff*width`].
 - Affects the cross section of the decay process (`ab > cd, c > ef ...`)
 $bwcutoff \uparrow \Rightarrow \text{cross section} \uparrow$; $bwcutoff \downarrow \Rightarrow \text{cross section} \downarrow$
- How to set the decay width (for BSM particles) in `param_card`?
Use “`auto`” when possible.

Exercise 2

- Import the dark photon model then generate Compton-like process $\gamma e^- \rightarrow A'e^- \rightarrow (e^+e^-)e^-$ for a fixed-target photon-beam experiment with $E_\gamma = 100$ MeV. A' is the dark photon and we set its mass to be 5 MeV. Its coupling to the electrons is $g_V = 10^{-3}$.
- Q1: How to generate a process if we only want on-shell A' ?
- Q2: How to generate a process if we want both on-shell and off-shell A' ? (also without SM background.)
- Q3: How to generate a process if we only want off-shell A' ? (also without SM background.)

Play with the simulated events

- The resulting events can be found inside
`/newprocess/Events/run_xx/unweighted_events.lhe.gz`
- It is a zipped LHE file all the events have the same probability of occurrence
- Unzip
- Open
- It contains: proc_card, run_card, param_card, number of events, cross section, an event list

Events in Les Houches Accord (LHE)

cross section [pb]

```
<MGGenerationInfo>
# Number of Events      :      10000
# Integrated weight (pb) : 50865039.465
</MGGenerationInfo>
```

```
</header>
<init> beam ID  beam energy [GeV]
-11 11 5.50000e+00 5.50000e+00 0 0 247000 247000 -4 1
5.086504e+07 8.539401e+04 <-0.086504e+07-1>
```

```
<generator name='MadGraph5_aMC@NLO' version='2.9.2'>please cite 1405.0301 </generator>
</init>
```

```
<event> proc ID      scale [GeV]      α      αs
```

# of particles	4	1 +5.0865039e+07	5.50000000e+00	7.57575800e-03	2.06766100e-01					
	-11 -1	0 0 0 0	0 +0.000000000e+00	+0.000000000e+00	+5.499999763e+00	5.500000000e+00	5.110000000e-04	0.0000e+00	1.0000e+00	
	-11 -1	0 0 0 0	0 -0.000000000e+00	-0.000000000e+00	-5.499999763e+00	5.500000000e+00	5.110000000e-04	0.0000e+00	1.0000e+00	
	-11 1	1 2 0 0	0 +1.6106200894e-01	+4.0548438748e-02	+5.4974916637e+00	5.500000000e+00	5.110000000e-04	0.0000e+00	1.0000e+00	
	11 1	1 2 0 0	0 -1.6106200894e-01	-4.0548438748e-02	-5.4974916637e+00	5.500000000e+00	5.110000000e-04	0.0000e+00	1.0000e+00	

```
</event>
```

PDG code	parents	color flow	p_1 [GeV]	p_2 [GeV]	p_3 [GeV]	p_4 [GeV]	mass [GeV]	distance traveled [mm]	helicity
----------	---------	------------	-------------	-------------	-------------	-------------	------------	------------------------	----------

Status: -1 incoming, 1 outgoing, 2 intermediate

PDG code

	QUARKS	LEPTONS	GAUGE AND HIGGS BOSONS	
<i>d</i>	1	e^-	11	(9) 21
<i>u</i>	2	ν_e	12	g
<i>s</i>	3	μ^-	13	γ
<i>c</i>	4	ν_μ	14	Z^0
<i>b</i>	5	τ^-	15	W^+
<i>t</i>	6	ν_τ	16	h^0/H_1^0

initialization

statistical error on cross section [pb]

an event

Time to open Jupyter notebook

- copy your *.lhe.gz/*.lhe file to the Jupyter notebook folder

Exercise 3

- The forward-backward symmetry is defined by

$$A_{FB} = \frac{\sigma(\cos \theta > 0) - \sigma(\cos \theta < 0)}{\sigma(\cos \theta > 0) + \sigma(\cos \theta < 0)},$$

where θ is the scattering angle of one of the outgoing fermions in the center-of-mass frame. It measures the net fraction of events move in the forward direction.

taken from [Tanedo's tutorial](#)

Now consider the SM process $e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-$ at LEP. How does A_{FB} changes with respect to the central energy?

(scan over $\sqrt{s} = [60, 70, 80, 85, 90, 95, 100, 110, 120]$ GeV)

Add a form factor

- For fixed-target collisions with nuclei, interactions take place inside the nuclei environment rather than the vacuum environment. This difference is taken account by the form factor.
- In many case, the form factor can be viewed as dressing a vertex with some functions, which usually have some momentum-dependence.
- How to add the form factor?

The Universal FeynRules Output (UFO) models

- [Degrade et al \(2012\)](#)
- `__init__.py`, `object_library.py`, `function_library.py`,
`write_param_card.py`
- `particles.py`, `parameters.py`, `vertices.py`, `lorentz.py`,
`couplings.py`, `coupling_orders.py`, `decays.py`,
`propagators.py`, (`CT_parameters.py`, `CT_vertices.py`,
`CT_couplings.py`)

$$V(a_1 \dots a_n l_1 \dots l_n; p_1 \dots p_n) = \sum_{ij} C_i(a_1 \dots a_n) G_{ij} L_j(l_1 \dots l_n; p_1 \dots p_n)$$

Vertex Color factor Couplings Spin/Lorentz factor

Add a form factor

Example: add to $\log \frac{p_{W^+} \cdot p_{W^-}}{m_W^2}$ to the W^+W^-H vertex

1. Make a folder with name “Fortran” inside the UFO model folder and make a file with name “function.f” inside the Fortran folder
2. Define a COMPLEX function for the form factor inside function.f

```
double complex function FormFactor(S1)
double complex S1
include 'input.inc' ! include all model parameter
FormFactor = LOG(S1/MW**2)
return
end
```

Add a form factor

3. Open `vertices.py` inside the UFO model folder. Find the vertex you want to modify

```
v_2 = Vertex(name = 'v_2',
              particles = [ P.W_minus__, P.W_plus__, P.H ],
              color = [ '1' ],
              lorentz = [ L.VVS1, L.VVS2 ],
              couplings = { (0,0):C.GC_1, (0,1):C.GC_3 })
```

$$V = C \cdot G \cdot L$$

Add a form factor

4. Open `lorentz.py` inside the UFO model folder and changes the Lorentz structure with the newly defined `FormFactor` function

$$\log \frac{p_{W^+} \cdot p_{W^-}}{m_W^2}$$

```
VVS1 = Lorentz(name = 'VVS1',
                 spins = [ 3, 3, 1 ],      -1: Einstein sum with the metric
                 structure ='FormFactor(P(-1,1)*P(-1,2))*Metric(1,2)')
                                         momentum of particle 1  momentum of particle 2
VVS2 = Lorentz(name = 'VVS2',
                 spins = [ 3, 3, 1 ],
                 structure ='FormFactor(P(-1,1)*P(-1,2))
*P(-1,1)*P(-1,2)*Metric(1,2)')
```

Add a form factor

5. `./bin/mg5_aMC until output then pause`
6. `cd /output_dir/Source/MODEL`, check if the form factor function is added to `model_function.f` and `model_functions.inc`. If not, add the function to the **end of** `model_function.f` and **declare it** in `model_functions.inc`.
7. `cd /output_dir/Source/DHELAS`, check if the vertex contains the form factor.
8. `make clean; make all`
9. launch the simulation

ABC of the UFO language

- [Degrande et al \(2012\)](#)
- Follows (+ - - -) metric
- In the UFO convention, all momenta are along the incoming direction.

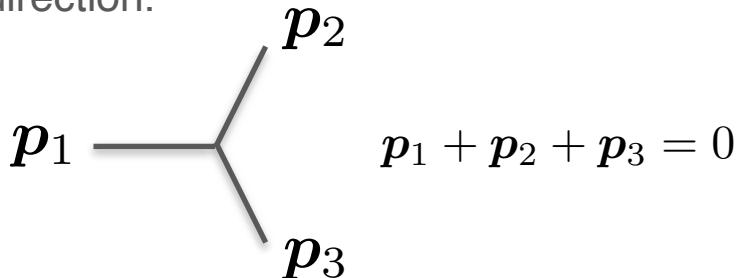


Table 6: Elementary Lorentz structures

Charge conjugation matrix: $C_{i_1 i_2}$	<code>C(1,2)</code>
Epsilon matrix: $\epsilon^{\mu_1 \mu_2 \mu_3 \mu_4}$	<code>Epsilon(1,2,3,4)</code>
Dirac matrices: $(\gamma^{\mu_1})_{i_2 i_3}$	<code>Gamma(1, 2, 3)</code>
Fifth Dirac matrix: $(\gamma^5)_{i_1 i_2}$	<code>Gamma5(1,2)</code>
(Spinorial) Kronecker delta: $\delta_{i_1 i_2}$	<code>Identity(1,2)</code>
Minkowski metric: $\eta_{\mu_1 \mu_2}$	<code>Metric(1,2)</code>
Momentum of the N^{th} particle: $p_N^{\mu_1}$	<code>P(1,N)</code>
Right-handed chiral projector: $\left(\frac{1+\gamma^5}{2}\right)_{i_1 i_2}$	<code>ProjP(1,2)</code>
Left-handed chiral projector $\left(\frac{1-\gamma^5}{2}\right)_{i_1 i_2}$	<code>ProjM(1,2)</code>
Sigma matrices: $(\sigma^{\mu_1 \mu_2})_{i_3 i_4}$	<code>Sigma(1,2,3,4)</code>

Exercise 4

- In the DarkPhoton model, pretend the electron to be a nucleon and add the elastic G_2 form factor, Eq. (A18) of <https://arxiv.org/abs/0906.0580>, to the $\gamma N \bar{N}$ vertex. Re-generate the Compton-like process $\gamma N \rightarrow A' N$ and compare it to the same process without adding the form factor.
(set $E_\gamma = 10$ MeV and $m_{A'} = 50$ MeV)

Thank you