

Ultra-high intensity lasers and quantum-electrodynamic effects

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11^{ème} Forum Lasers et Plasmas Belambra, Corse, 27 Septembre-1 Octobre



- High-Energy Density Physics and Ultra High Intensity Physics
- Quantum Electro-dynamic (QED) processes:
 - Schwinger limit ; Photon-photon collision ; Pair electron-positron creation
 - Astrophysical context: Active Galactic Nuclei...
 - Breit-Wheeler process: Real gamma photon collision in laboratory
 - QED Calculation of differential and total BW cross section
 - Astrophysical application
 - About non-linear and linear BW cross section

Ultra High Intensity (UHI)*



UHI X Conditions Plasmas Intensity > 10^{19} W/cm² Electronic density: 10¹⁹ cm⁻³



*[Ron Davidson et al., National Academies Press (2003); <http://www.nap.edu/>]

Laser-matter interaction accelerates electrons in a relativistic regime (UHI)





PETAL Omega-EP Salle Jaune (LOA) UHI 100 (Saclay) Apollon ELI... accelerating gradient [eV/m] = charge × long. Electricfield (E_7)

Resonator : RF cavity E_<100 MV/m



Resonator : plasma E_z=m_ecω_p/e≈100 GV/m



(for $n_e = 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$)

History of short pulse laser



https://spie.org/news/4221-exploring-fundamental-physics-at-the-highest-intensity-laser-frontier



Ultra-high-Power

- Zettawatt = 10²¹ W
- Exawatt = 10¹⁸ W (ELI? Apollon ?...)
- Petawatt = 10¹⁵ W (Total sunlight on earth ~ 100 PW)
- Terawatt = 10¹² W (Total electrical power generated in the world ~ 5 TW)



It would occur in a strong electric field in vacuum: QED theory

The electric field separates virtual (e⁺, e⁻) by a distance of compton length and provided 2 m_ac² of energy



$$E \simeq E_c \equiv \frac{m_e^2 c^3}{e\hbar}$$

Schwinger limit¹ $I_c \simeq 2.3 \times 10^{29} \mathrm{W/cm^2}$

Photon and Matter





—► e⁺ + e⁻

 $\gamma + \gamma$

Albert Einstein



Crédit : Larousse Paul A. M. Dirac



Crédit : Wikipédia

Pairs creation e⁺e⁻ during photons collision





¹Balakin V. E. et al. Physics Letters 34B 7 (1971)
²Baldani Celio R. et al. Physics Letters 86B 2 (1979)
³Anderson C. D. Phys. Rev. 43, 491 (1933)
⁴Reiss H. R., J. Math. Phys. 3, 59 (1962)
⁵Burke D. L. et al. PRL 79, 9 (1997)
⁶Breit, G. and Wheeler J. A. Phys. Rev. 46 (1934)

Light-light scattering does not occurs in classical electrodynamic (Maxwell equ. are linear) In QED theory





$$\hbar\omega \ge m_e c^2 = 511 \,\mathrm{keV}$$

Breit-Wheeler process



 $\sigma_{BW} \simeq r_e^2$

$$\sigma_{BW} \simeq 8 \times 10^{-26} \mathrm{cm}^2$$



Photon-Photon collision and pair production in astrophysics

Breit-Wheeler process Collision of two light quanta $\gamma + \gamma \longrightarrow e^+ + e^-$

- Electron pair production in AGN (Active Galaxy nuclei), Blazar, Quasar¹
- Absorption of high-energy photon in the Universe², cut-off in high energy gamma rays



Artiste composition

- Electron pair production in
 - GRB³ (Gamma ray burst), Supernovae
 - In pulsar electron-positron pair plasma
 - Merging neutron start, black hole



Artiste composition

¹Bonometto, S. and Ress, M. J. MNRAS, **152** 21-25 (1971) ²Nikishov A. I., JETP **14** (1962) ³Piran, S. Rev. Mod. Phys. **76** (2004)





Breit-Wheeler pairs production experimental schemes





Pike O. et al. Nature Photonics, 8, 434, (2014)

MeV Inverse Compton photon beams collision



Dredo I. et al. Phys. Rev. Accel. Beams 20, 043402 (2017)

MeV – MeV photons collision Synch. or Brems beam



Ribeyre X. et al. Phys. Rev E **93**, 013201 (2016)

10 MeV-10 MeV photons collision from narrow tube target



Breit-Wheeler process



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

How to pass from :

Feynman Diagram



Breit-Wheeler cross section¹ in CM

$$\sigma_{\gamma\gamma}(s) = \frac{\pi r_e^2}{2} \left(1 - \beta^2 \right) \left[2\beta \left(\beta^2 + 2 \right) + \left(3 - \beta^4 \right) \log \left(\frac{1+\beta}{1-\beta} \right) \right]$$

$$\beta = \sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{s}}$$
 $s = \frac{E_{\gamma_1} E_{\gamma_2}}{2m_e^2 c^4} (1 - \cos \phi)$

¹Breit, G. and Wheeler J. A. PRL **15** (1934)

Calculations Steps





$$\sigma_{BW}(s) = \left[\frac{\pi r_c^2}{2} (1 - \beta^2) \left[2\beta \left(\beta^2 - 2\right) + (3 - \beta^4) \log\left(\frac{1+\beta}{1-\beta}\right) \right]$$

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$$\frac{du_{0,i}}{du_{i}} = \frac{e^{i}}{4} \sum_{x_{i},x_{i}} \sum_{x_{i}} \left(\vec{p}, s_{i} \right) \cdot \vec{s}_{i}^{x_{i}} \left(\vec{q}, s_{i} \right) \cdot \vec{s}_{i}^{x_{i}} \cdot \vec{s}_{i} \left(\vec{p}, s_{i} \right) \cdot \vec{s}_{i} \cdot \vec{s}_{i$$

$$\mathcal{W}_{n} \mathcal{W}_{n}^{*} = \underbrace{e^{4}}_{(t-ne)}^{*} \left(\widetilde{u}\left(\overline{p}, S_{k}\right) \overline{g}^{k}\left(gt+m\right) \overline{g}^{k} \overline{v}\left(\overline{p}, S_{k}\right) \right) \left(\overline{u}\left(\overline{p}, S_{k}\right) \overline{g}^{k}\left(gt+m\right) \overline{g}^{k} \overline{v}\left(\overline{p}, S_{k}\right) \right)^{+} \underbrace{g_{\text{from}}}_{(t-ne)}^{*} \underbrace{g_{\text{from}}}_{(t-ne)}^{*} \left(\overline{u}\left(\overline{p}, S_{k}\right) \overline{g}^{k}\left(gt+m\right) \overline{g}^{k} \overline{v}\left(\overline{p}, S_{k}\right) \right) \left(\overline{u}\left(\overline{p}, S_{k}\right) \overline{g}^{k}\left(gt+m\right) \overline{g}^{k} \overline{v}\left(\overline{p}, S_{k}\right) \right)^{+} \underbrace{g_{\text{from}}}_{(t-ne)}^{*} \underbrace{g_{\text{from}}}_{(t-ne)}^{*} \underbrace{g_{\text{from}}}_{(t-ne)}^{*} \left(\overline{g}^{k}\left(\overline{g}, S_{k}\right) \right) \left(\overline{u}\left(\overline{p}, S_{k}\right) \overline{g}^{k} \overline{v}\left(\overline{p}, S_{k}\right) \right)^{+} \underbrace{g_{\text{from}}}_{(t-ne)}^{*} \underbrace{g_{\text{from}}}_{($$



We can show that :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{W}_{11} &= \frac{e^4}{4(t-m^2)^2} \quad \overline{\operatorname{Tr}}\left[\left(q'-m\right)^{\gamma}\left(q+m\right)^{\gamma}\left(q+m\right)^{\gamma}\right] \\ \mathcal{W}_{11} &= \frac{e^4}{4(t-m^2)^2} \quad \overline{\operatorname{Trace}} \\ \overline{\operatorname{Then}} \quad g_{01} \quad \mathcal{W}_{22} &= \frac{1}{4} \sum_{i \leq i' \leq -\lambda, i'} \mathcal{I}_{ii} \mathcal{U}_{ii} \mathcal{U}_{ii} \mathcal{U}_{ii} \\ \mathcal{U}_{22} &= \frac{e^4}{4(u-m^2)^2} \quad \overline{\operatorname{Tr}}\left[\left(p'-m\right)^{\gamma}\right]^{\gamma}\left(q'+m\right)^{\gamma}\left(q'+m\right)^{\gamma} \mathcal{V}\left(q'+m\right)^{\gamma} \mathcal{V}_{i} \\ \overline{\operatorname{Then}} \quad g_{01} \quad \mathcal{U}_{12} &= \frac{1}{4} \sum_{i \leq i' \leq -\lambda, i'} \mathcal{U}_{ii} \mathcal{U}_{ii} \mathcal{U}_{i} \\ \overline{\operatorname{Then}} \quad g_{01} \quad \mathcal{U}_{12} &= \frac{1}{4} \sum_{i \leq i' \leq -\lambda, i'} \mathcal{U}_{ii} \mathcal{U}_{ii} \mathcal{U}_{i} \\ \mathcal{U}_{12} &= \frac{e^4}{4(t-m^2)(u-m^2)} \quad \overline{\operatorname{Tr}}\left(\left(q'-m\right)^{\gamma} \mathcal{V}_{i} \left(q+m\right)^{\gamma} \mathcal{V}_{i} \left(q+m\right)^{\gamma} \mathcal{V}_{i} \left(q+m\right)^{\gamma} \mathcal{V}_{i} \right) \\ \end{array}$$



$$\mathcal{U}_{11} = \frac{2e^{4}}{(t-m^{2})^{2}} \left[(s-2m^{2})(m^{2}-t) - (m^{2}+t)^{2} \right]$$

$$\mathcal{U}_{12} = \frac{2e^{4}}{(u-m^{2})^{2}} \left[(s-2m^{2})(m^{2}-u) - (m^{2}+u)^{2} \right]$$

$$\mathcal{U}_{12} = \frac{2e^{4}m^{2}}{(t-m^{2})(u-m^{2})} \left[s-4m^{2} \right]$$

$$\left[\overline{UL}\right]^{2} = UL_{11} + UL_{22} + 2IRe\left(UL_{12}\right)$$

$$\left[\overline{UL}\right]^{2} = 2e^{4}\left[\frac{u-m^{2}}{(t-m^{2})} + \frac{t-m^{2}}{(u-m^{2})} - 4m^{2}\left(\frac{1}{(t-m^{2})} + \frac{1}{(u-m^{2})}\right) - 4m^{4}\left(\frac{1}{(t-m^{2})} + \frac{1}{(u-m^{2})}\right)^{2}\right]$$

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Thanks to the help of J. C. Caillon (CENBG) «Physique des particules et interactions fondamentales » Lecture

Breit Wheeler differential cross section



¹ Ribeyre X. et al. PPCF 59 014024 (2017) ²Ribeyre X. et al. PPCF 60 104001 (2018)





θ

e⁺

γ₁

e,

Effect of Breit Wheeler differential cross section On pair beaming





Without BW diff cross section

With BW diff cross section

Example of matter-antimatter production in univers



The Centaurus A Galaxy and its jet from the supermassive black hole



Crédit : NASA-ESO

Active Galactic Nuclei



Artiste view

The active Galaxy M87 and its particle jet Jet size 5000 AL



Crédit : HST/NASA/ESA

The central black hole of the giant galaxy M87. April 2019



Crédit : EHT Collaboration





100 000 Light-year



BW Pairs beaming and Active Galactic Nuclei (AGN) and ultra-relativistic pair beam





¹Oka K & Manmoto T. MNRAS **340**,543 (2003) ²Vuillaume T. et al. A&A **581** A18 (2015)

Pairs beaming from BW process 4 MeV-4MeV





Pairs beaming from BW process 4 Mev- 0.5 MeV

More accurate model for pair distribution and pair beaming

About non-linear Breit-Wheeler and linear Breit-wheeler processes

Breit-Wheeler¹ (1934)

Non-linear Breit-Wheeler² (1962)

-Collision of two gamma photons

- « Collision of one gamma photon and several low energy (laser) photon »

- Desintegration of one gamma photon in electromagnetic field (n laser photon)

¹Breit, G. and Wheeler J. A. Phys. Rev. **46** (1934) ²Reiss H. R., J. Math. Phys. 3, 59 (1962)

Total cross section comparison

Ref : Greiner W. and Reinhardt J., Quantum Electrodynamics, Springer (2009)

About non-linear Breit-Wheeler and linear Breit-wheeler processes (1)

For BW process the total cross section is :

$$\gamma + \gamma \to e^+ + e^ \bar{\sigma}_{\text{pair}} = \frac{\pi}{2} \frac{\alpha^2}{m_0^2} (1 - v^2) \Big[(3 - v^4) \ln \frac{1 + v}{1 - v} - 2v(2 - v^2) \Big] .$$

Same as before

For non-linear BW the total cross section writes :

$$\begin{split} \gamma + n\omega &\to e^+ + e^- \qquad \sigma = \frac{2\pi\alpha^2}{s} \frac{1}{\eta^2} \sum_{n>n_0}^{\infty} \int_1^{u_n} \mathrm{d}u \, \frac{1}{u\sqrt{u(u-1)}} \\ &\times \left[2J_n^2(z) + \eta^2 \left(J_{n+1}^2(z) + J_{n-1}^2(z) - 2J_n^2(z) \right) (2u-1) \right] \,. \end{split}$$

Where n is the number of photons and

$$\eta = \frac{e\sqrt{|\langle A_{\mu}A^{\mu}\rangle|}}{mc^{2}} = \frac{ea}{mc^{2}}$$
$$= \frac{e|E|}{\omega mc} = a_{0}$$

$$s = 4n\omega\omega'$$
 $u_n = \frac{ns}{4m_0^2}$ $z = \sqrt{-Q^2} = \frac{8m^2}{s}\eta\sqrt{1+\eta^2}\sqrt{u(u_n-u)}$.

About Non-linear Breit-Wheeler and Linear Breit-wheeler processes (2)

If n=1 and
$$a_0 << 1$$

 $u_1 = \frac{s}{4m_0^2}$

Equivalent total cross section between BW-linear and BW non-linear for n=1 and low a_n

About Non-linear Breit-Wheeler and Linear Breit-wheeler processe (4)

Thank you for your Attention !

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