

HELICITY AMPLITUDES FOR HEAVY LEPTON PRODUCTION

IN e^te^T ANNIHILATION

by

K. Hagiwara

Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron DESY, Hamburg

and

Dept. of Physics, University of Durham, England

D. Zeppenfeld

Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron DESY, Hamburg

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Helicity amplitudes for heavy lepton production

in e⁺e⁻ annihilation

K. Hagiwara^{1,2} and D. Zeppenfeld¹

¹DESY, Theory Group, Hamburg, F.R. Germany ²Department of Physics, University of Durham, DH1 3LE, England

ABSTRACT

Signatures of new heavy lepton pair production in e^+e^- annihilation at TRISTAN/SLC/LEP energies are studied in detail. Complete helicity amplitudes for the 2 \rightarrow 6 process $e^+e^- + LL \rightarrow (v_L f_1 f_2) (\bar{v}_L f_3 f_4)$ are given for arbitrary masses of final fermions and for arbitrary vector and axial vector couplings. Methods to measure the L and v_L masses, and the neutral- and charged-current couplings of L in terms of fourjet and one-lepton-dijet final state distributions are exemplified. Signatures of heavy neutrino-pair production are discussed briefly. A straightforward method for calculating arbitrary tree amplitudes with external fermions and vector bosons of arbitrary masses is presented for completeness.

1. Introduction

Once the possible observation of the top quark at the CERN collider¹ is confirmed, three families of quarks and leptons are completed, raising as our next immediate question the existence of a fourth generation of fermions. A number of authors have studied the consequences of fourth generation quarks² and leptons^{3,4} mainly at hadron colliders, where identification of their signal is the most important task. In e^+e^- annihilation experiments, however, we expect no difficulty in detecting their production simply because the signal cross-section constitutes a significant portion of the total annihilation cross-section. Here the aim of studies is not the detection of signals but should rather be the determination of detailed properties of the produced particles; their masses, spins and couplings.

In this paper we study in detail the signatures of heavy lepton pair (LL) production in e^+e^- annihilation at TRISTAN, SLC/LEP-I, and LEP-II energies. The produced heavy leptons are each expected to decay into a neutrino (v_L) and a fermion-pair $(f\bar{f}')$. The final state will thus contain six partons $(v_L\bar{v}_Lf_1\bar{f}_2f_3\bar{f}_4)$ and typical heavy lepton signals are dilepton (e.g. $e^\pm\mu^\mp$), one-lepton-dijet, and four-jet events with large missing transverse momentum (\not{p}_T) due to the escaped neutrinos. All these distributions depend crucially on the mass assumed for the neutrino v_L and the charged- and neutral-current couplings of the heavy lepton. However, because of the missing neutrinos we cannot study the production and decay properties of the heavy leptons separately in actual experiments.

This necessitates theoretical expressions for the exclusive 2 + 6 distributions with a certain freedom to change mass and coupling assignments. It is easy to calculate the heavy lepton pair

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production ($e^+e^- \rightarrow LL$) cross-section even with fixed heavy lepton polarizations. It is also easy to calculate the L + $\nu_{_{\rm L}}f_{1}\bar{f}_{2}$ decay distributions for a polarized heavy lepton. However, the final distribution is not simply the product of these cross-sections because the two intermediate heavy lepton polarization states can interfere to give a non-trivial azimuthal angle dependence to the L + $\nu_{_{\rm T}}f_{_{\rm T}}\bar{f}_{_{\rm T}}$ decay distribution with respect to the LL production plane. This is a novel feature of future heavy lepton searches, where we will be forced to study its properties near the production threshold as compared to the tau lepton studies⁵ where sufficiently high beam energy (E \gtrsim 3m, allowed to neglect any such azimuthal angle dependence, even in the correlation studies⁶. Such interference effects between different polarization states of the intermediate heavy lepton can in general lead to non-trivial correlations among final particles near the threshold. Since this inevitably destroys the factorization of the full 2 \rightarrow 6 cross-section into the production and the decay parts, we should evaluate directly the $2 \rightarrow 6$ process cross-section, which requires substantial efforts in the standard method where polarization summed squared matrix elements are evaluated with the help of algebraic manipulation programs, such as REDUCE and SCHOONSCHIP. A full calculation was performed by Kühn and Wagner⁷ for the hadronic $(\pi,\rho,A_{1}\,,3\pi)$ decay modes of τ leptons. For fourth generation heavy leptons, we expect jet production to dominate their hadronic decays and the most recent calculation⁴ of the squared matrix elements assumes all the six final fermions to be massless and a V-A charged current coupling, and it contains no γ - Z interference effects, which is clearly not sufficient for future e^+e^- collider studies.

In this paper we present complete helicity amplitudes for the full $2 \rightarrow 6$ process with arbitrary final fermion masses and with arbitrary vector and axial vector couplings of heavy leptons to charged- and neutral-currents. The full amplitude is just a product

of the production amplitude and the two decay amplitudes summed over intermediate heavy lepton polarizations. This factorization property of amplitudes allows us to evaluate the basic $2 \rightarrow 2$ and $1 \rightarrow 3$ amplitudes only, which is straightforward with the method to be described in detail. Final results are very compact and easy to evaluate numerically by computer. We show several distributions for three typical topologies (four-jet plus \not{p}_{T} , one-lepton and a dijet, and dilepton plus \not{p}_{T} events), in order to examine their sensitivities to the heavy lepton couplings and the heavy neutrino mass.

Direct calculation of helicity amplitudes and their numerical evaluation has a long history⁸ but it is only recently that a number of approaches 9-14 appeared as a result of increasing necessity to evaluate complex Feynman amplitudes. A helicity amplitude, being just a complex number, is in principle straightforward to evaluate for an arbitrary Feynman diagram. Once we choose a particular convention for spinor and vector wave functions, the helicity amplitudes are uniquely determined. A marked property of our approach, which employs the Weyl basis for helicity spinors and the rectangular polarization basis for vector boson wave functions, is its straightforwardness; no clever choice of bases nor particular techniques for Lorentz contraction of two gamma matrices are required. Because of this straightforwardness, our method leads to an almost unique expression for a given Feynman diagram, which is a useful property when one checks the results obtained by other groups. Final results can be expressed in terms of a simple quantity¹²

, $T(a^{\mu}, b^{\mu})_{\alpha\beta}$

with $(\alpha,\beta) = (+,+)$, (+,-), (-,+) or (-,-) which gives a complex number as a function of two arbitrary Lorentz four-vectors. This

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quantity, which was first introduced by Kleiss¹², replaces the role of the Lorentz contraction (the dot-product) of two four-vectors,

 $a.b = a^{\mu}b_{\mu}$,

in terms of which standard squared matrix elements are expressed. Once we set up a routine to evaluate $T(a^{\mu}, b^{\mu})_{\alpha\beta}$, then numerical evaluation of amplitudes is just as straightforward as that of squared matrix elements. We believe that our formalism has some novel features regarding its straightforwardness and we therefore present a complete description of our method to evaluate arbitrary tree amplitudes.

The paper is organized as follows. In section 2, we explain the structure of helicity amplitudes for the process $e^+e^- + L\bar{L} +$ $(\nu_L f_1\bar{f}_2)(\bar{\nu}_L f_3\bar{f}_4)$. In section 3, we present our method of evaluating arbitrary tree amplitudes with external fermions and vector bosons. Section 4 gives analytic expressions of the production and decay amplitudes with arbitrary external fermion masses and arbitrary vector and axial vector couplings in terms of the quantity $T(a^{\mu}, b^{\mu})_{\alpha\beta}$ In section 5, we present some final state distributions at representative e^+e^- collider energies and examine their sensitivity to the neutrino mass and the heavy lepton couplings. In section 6, we briefly discuss the signals of heavy neutral lepton pair production. In section 7, we explain how to use our helicity amplitudes to generate distributions for arbitrary transverse or longitudinal polarization of beams. Section 8 is reserved for conclusions.

2. Structure of the full helicity amplitudes

Within the standard model, production of a heavy lepton pair $L\bar{L}$ in e⁺e⁻ collisions is mediated by a photon or a Z boson in the s-channel. Subsequently L (and \bar{L}) decay into v_{L} (\bar{v}_{L}) and a virtual W (or a real W if the heavy lepton mass is sufficiently large). The Feynman diagram for the full process is depicted in Fig. 1, where the k's, q's, p's and κ 's, σ 's, λ 's denote the fourmomenta and helicities of the fermions. For fixed heavy lepton helicities σ_{1} and σ_{2} the amplitude of the full process can be written as a product of three amplitudes M_{1} (i = 1,2,3) where M_{1} describes the production of the $L\bar{L}$ pair, while M_{2} (M_{3}) are the decay amplitudes of L (\bar{L}). We can hence write the amplitude of the full process as

$$M = M(\kappa_1, \kappa_2, \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3, \lambda_4, \lambda_5, \lambda_6)$$

= $D_L(q_1^2) \quad D_{\overline{L}}(q_2^2) \quad \sum_{\sigma_1 = \pm} \sum_{\sigma_2 = \pm} M_1(\kappa_1, \kappa_2, \sigma_1, \sigma_2) \quad M_2(\sigma_1, \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3) \quad M_3(\sigma_2, \lambda_4, \lambda_5, \lambda_6)$ (2.1)

where

$$D_{\chi}(q^2) = [q^2 - m_{\chi}^2 + im_{\chi}r_{\chi}]^{-1}$$
 (2.2)

denotes the propagator factor of a particle X with mass ${\rm m}_{\rm y}$ and width

г_х.

The amplitudes M_{i} , i = 1,2,3 have identical structure. They are all given by the generic Feynman diagram of Fig. 2, where the ψ 's stand for either u or v spinors. We use projection operators P_{\pm} on right- and left-handed spinors

$$P_{\pm} = \frac{1}{2} (1 \pm \gamma_5) ,$$
 (2.3)

and right- and left-handed couplings g_{\pm}^{Vab} as defined by the interaction Lagrangian

Ł

$$= e \sum_{\alpha=+}^{V} g_{\alpha}^{Vab} \tilde{\psi}_{a} \gamma^{\mu} P_{\alpha} \psi_{b} v_{\mu}$$

(2.4)

with e the magnitude of the electron charge. We can write this generic amplitude as

$$M_{\rm g} = - e^2 \sum_{\rm V} \dot{b}_{\rm V}^{\mu\nu}({\rm q}) \sum_{\alpha = \pm} \sum_{\beta = \pm} g^{\rm Vab}_{\alpha} g^{\rm Vcd}_{\beta} \cdot \bar{\psi}_{\rm a} \gamma_{\mu}{}^{\rm P}_{\alpha} \psi_{\rm b} \cdot \bar{\psi}_{\rm c} \gamma_{\nu}{}^{\rm P}_{\beta} \psi_{\rm d} \qquad (2.5)$$

Here $D_V^{\mu\nu}$ denotes the vector boson propagator. We choose the Feynman gauge for a photon and the unitary gauge for massive vector bosons;

$$D_{V}^{\mu\nu}(q) = \begin{cases} (-g^{\mu\nu}) D_{\gamma}(q^{2}) & \text{for } V = \gamma \\ \\ \left(-g^{\mu\nu} + \frac{g^{\mu}q^{\nu}}{M_{V}^{2}}\right) & D_{V}(q^{2}) & \text{for } V = W, Z \end{cases}$$
(2.6)

A complete analytic expression for M_{G} is given in section 4. Each of the amplitudes M_{i} (i = 1,2,3) are then obtained from it by choosing appropriate couplings. These expressions can easily be evaluated numerically and are then assembled to give the full amplitude via Eq.(2.1). The polarization averaged differential cross-section is then obtained by

$$\sigma = \frac{1}{4\kappa_1 \cdot \kappa_2} \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\kappa_1} \sum_{\kappa_2} \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ \pi \\ i=1 \lambda_i \end{pmatrix} |M|^2 d\Phi_6$$
(2.7)

with the phase space factor

d

$$d\Phi_{6} = (2\pi)^{4} \delta^{4} \left[k_{1} + k_{2} - \sum_{i=1}^{6} p_{i} \right] \stackrel{6}{\prod} \frac{d^{3}p_{i}}{i=1} \quad (2.8)$$

For all heavy lepton masses $m^{}_{\rm L}$ of interest, the width $\Gamma^{}_{\rm L}$ is always much smaller than its mass. We shall hence use the zero width approximation

$$D_{L}(q^{2})|^{2} = |D_{\overline{L}}(q^{2})|^{2} \approx \delta(q^{2} - m_{L}^{2}) \frac{\pi}{m_{L}^{\Gamma}}$$
(2.9)

for calculating cross-sections. This together with the trivial overall azimuthal angle integration reduces the original 14 dimensional phase space integration of $d\Phi_6$ to an 11 dimensional one, which considerably facilitates the numerical work.

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3. Weyl basis calculation of helicity amplitudes

In this section we present a complete description of our method to evaluate arbitrary tree amplitudes with external fermions and vector bosons. Throughout the paper we employ the Bjorken-Drell notation¹⁵ with only one exception for the normalization of spinors to be explained below.

An arbitrary tree amplitude with external fermions can be expressed in terms of the 'fermion string'

$$\bar{\psi}_1 P_{\alpha} \bar{a}_1 \bar{a}_2 \cdots \bar{a}_n \psi_2 \tag{3.1}$$

where ψ_{i} denotes a generic four-spinor

$$\psi_{i} = u(p_{i}, \lambda_{i}) \text{ or } v(p_{i}, \lambda_{i})$$
(3.2)

with four-momentum \textbf{p}_i and helicity $\boldsymbol{\lambda}_i$,

$$P_{\alpha} = \frac{1 + \alpha \gamma_5}{2} \tag{3.3}$$

with $\alpha = \pm$, and a_{i}^{μ} stands for an arbitrary Lorentz four-vector. a_{i}^{μ} may be the four-momentum of a particle (p_{i}^{μ}) , a vector-boson wave function $(\epsilon^{\mu}(p_{i},\lambda_{i}))$, an axial vector $\epsilon^{\mu}_{\ \nu\rho\sigma}a_{j}^{\nu}a_{k}^{\rho}a_{\ell}^{\sigma}$, or another fermion string with uncontracted Lorentz indices,

$$\bar{\psi}_{3}{}^{P}_{\beta} \aleph_{1} \aleph_{2} \cdots \gamma^{\mu} \cdots \aleph_{m} \psi_{4}$$
(3.4)

For all the spinors and gamma matrices we use the chiral representation

where

$$\gamma^{\mu} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \sigma^{\mu}_{+} \\ \sigma^{\mu}_{-} & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad (3.5)$$
$$\gamma^{5} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad (3.6)$$

with the 2 \times 2 matrices

$$\sigma_{\pm}^{\mu} = (1, \pm \vec{\sigma}). \tag{3.7}$$

Here $\vec{\sigma}$ denotes the Pauli matrices;

$$\vec{\sigma} = (\sigma^1, \sigma^2, \sigma^3) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$
(3.8)

Next we introduce 2-component Weyl spinors, $(\psi_i)_{\pm}$, via

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$$\psi_{\mathbf{i}} = \begin{pmatrix} (\psi_{\mathbf{i}})_{-} \\ (\psi_{\mathbf{i}})_{+} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \overline{\psi}_{\mathbf{i}} = ((\psi_{\mathbf{i}})^{\dagger}_{+}, (\psi_{\mathbf{i}})^{\dagger}_{-})$$
(3.9)

and the 2 \times 2 matrices (a)₊,

$$z = a_{\mu} \gamma^{\mu} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & (z)_{+} \\ (z)_{-} & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$
 (3.10)

or more explicitly

$$(\mathbf{A})_{\pm} = a_{\mu}\sigma_{\pm}^{\mu} = \begin{pmatrix} a^{0} \mp a^{3} \mp (a^{1} - ia^{2}) \\ \mp (a^{1} + ia^{2}) & a^{0} \pm a^{3} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (3.11)$$

for arbitrary Lorentz four-vectors a^{μ} .

By using

$$\bar{\psi}_{i} P_{+} = \left(0, (\psi_{i})^{\dagger}\right),$$

$$\bar{\psi}_{i} P_{-} = \left((\psi_{i})^{\dagger}_{+}, 0\right),$$

$$(3.12a)$$

$$(3.12b)$$

it is easy to see that the string (3.1) is now replaced by a new string in terms of 2-component spinors and 2×2 matrices;

$$\bar{\psi}_{1}P_{-\alpha} \not a_{1} \not a_{2} \dots \not a_{n} \psi_{2} = (\psi_{1})^{\dagger}_{\alpha} [a_{1}, a_{2}, \dots, a_{n}]^{\alpha} (\psi_{2})_{\delta_{n} \alpha}$$
(3.13)

where

$$[a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n]^{\alpha} = (\not a_1)_{\alpha} (\not a_2)_{-\alpha} \dots (\not a_n)_{-\delta_n \alpha}$$
(3.14)

with

$$\delta_n = (-1)^n$$
 (3.15)

If one starts with Feynman rules in the 2-component spinor basis, then one directly obtains an expression of the form (3.13).

At this stage, we will in general have contractions of Lorentz indices between different spinor strings (repeated indices within the same string do not appear at the tree level). We get rid of these repeated indices by using the Fierz identities¹⁶,

$$(\sigma_{\pm}^{\mu})_{ij} (\sigma_{\mp\mu})_{k\ell} = 2 \delta_{i\ell} \delta_{kj}$$
(3.16a)

$$(\sigma_{\pm}^{\mu})_{ij} (\sigma_{\pm\mu})_{k\ell} = 2 [\delta_{ij} \delta_{k\ell} - \delta_{i\ell} \delta_{kj}], \qquad (3.16b)$$

where the spinorial indices i,j,k and ℓ take two values 1 and 2. By denoting a product of the 2 × 2 matrices of type (3.14) generically by $[s_i]$, an arbitrary contraction is done by one of the following two rules:

By repeated use of the above contraction formulae, we end up with a product of spinorial strings of the form

$$(\psi_{i})^{\dagger}_{\alpha} [a_{1}, a_{2}, \dots, a_{n}]^{\alpha} (\psi_{j})_{\beta}$$
 (3.18)

where none of the four-vectors a_k^{μ} represents another string. We can hence evaluate the string (3.18) independently.

For this purpose we use helicity eigenstates $\chi_+(p)$

$$\begin{array}{c} \stackrel{\rightarrow}{\sigma} \stackrel{\rightarrow}{p} \\ |\stackrel{\rightarrow}{p}| \end{array} \chi_{\lambda}(p) = \lambda \chi_{\lambda}(p) (3.19) \end{array}$$

as our basis for free spinors

$$u(p,\lambda)_{\pm} = \pm v(p,-\lambda)_{\pm} = \omega_{\pm\lambda}(p) \chi_{\lambda}(p) \qquad (3.20)$$

with

$$\omega_{\pm}(\mathbf{p}) = \left\{ \mathbf{E} \pm \left| \stackrel{*}{\mathbf{p}} \right| \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
(3.21)

and

$$\chi_{+}(\mathbf{p}) = \left[2\left|\overset{*}{\mathbf{p}}\right|\left(\left|\overset{*}{\mathbf{p}}\right| + \mathbf{p}_{z}\right)\right]^{-1} \left(\begin{array}{c} \left|\overset{*}{\mathbf{p}}\right| + \mathbf{p}_{z}\\ \mathbf{p}_{x} + i\mathbf{p}_{y}\end{array}\right)$$
(3.22a)

$$\chi_{-}(\mathbf{p}) = \left[2\left|\dot{\mathbf{p}}\right|\left(\left|\dot{\mathbf{p}}\right| + \mathbf{p}_{z}\right)\right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\begin{array}{c} -\mathbf{p}_{x} + i\mathbf{p}_{y} \\ |\dot{\mathbf{p}}| + \mathbf{p}_{z}\end{array}\right)$$
(3.22b)

for an arbitrary momentum $p^{\mu} = (E, p) = (E, p_x, p_y, p_z)$ with $|\dot{p}| + p_z \neq 0$. When $p_z = -|\dot{p}|$, we choose the convention

 $\chi_{+}(\mathbf{p}) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad (3.23a)$ $\chi_{-}(\mathbf{p}) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad (3.23b)$

The free spinors (3.20) satisfy the Dirac equation $(p^2 = m^2)$

$$p'_{\pm}u(\mathbf{p},\lambda)_{\pm} = m u(\mathbf{p},\lambda)_{\mp}$$
(3.24a)

$$\not p_{+} \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{p}, \lambda)_{+} = \neg \mathbf{m} \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{p}, \lambda)_{+}$$
(3.24b)

and are normalised as

$$\overline{u}(p,\lambda) \quad u(p,\lambda) = 2m \tag{3.25a}$$

$$\vec{v}(p,\lambda) \quad v(p,\lambda) = -2m$$
 (3.25b)

which differs from the Bjorken-Drell convention¹⁵. Because of this normalization, we can use the same phase space factor (see Eq.(2.8) for fermions and bosons.

The formulae (3.20) - (3.23) completely fix our convention for spinors. The most important point is that we express the spinors entirely in terms of their four-momentum in a given frame. Helicities are defined in this particular frame and we should evaluate all the four-momenta in the same frame, a natural choice in e^+e^- collisions being the e^+e^- c.m. frame.

We can now evaluate the spinor-string (3.18) unambiguously in terms of the fermion four-momenta p_i^{μ} , p_j^{μ} and the other four-vectors a_k^{μ} :

$$(\psi_{i})^{\dagger}_{\alpha} [a_{1}, \dots, a_{n}]^{\alpha} (\psi_{j})_{\beta}$$

= $C_{i}C_{j}\omega_{\alpha\lambda_{i}}(p_{i})\omega_{\beta\lambda_{j}}(p_{j}) S(p_{i}, a_{1}, \dots, a_{n}, p_{j})^{\alpha}_{\lambda_{i}\lambda_{j}}$ (3.26)

where the coefficients C_i and C_j depend on whether the spinors ψ_i and ψ_i correspond to a fermion or an antifermion,

$$C_{k} = \begin{cases} 1 \quad \text{for} \quad (\psi_{k})_{\tau} = u(p_{k}, \lambda_{k})_{\tau}, \\ \tau \quad \text{for} \quad (\psi_{k})_{\tau} = v(p_{k}, -\lambda_{k})_{\tau}. \end{cases}$$
(3.27)

These coefficients govern the crossing relations of fermionic amplitudes

- 13 as exemplified in the next section. The term S on the r.h.s. of

Eq.(3.26) is uniquely expressed as

 $S(\mathbf{p}_{i},\mathbf{a}_{i},\ldots,\mathbf{a}_{n},\mathbf{p}_{j})_{\lambda_{i}\lambda_{j}}^{\alpha} = \chi_{\lambda_{i}}^{\dagger}(\mathbf{p}_{i}) [\mathbf{a}_{1},\ldots,\mathbf{a}_{n}]^{\alpha} \chi_{\lambda_{j}}(\mathbf{p}_{j}) .$ (3.28)

Our convention is that a subscript λ_{i} corresponds to the helicity for a fermion, but to the negative of the helicity for an antifermion. This quantity S, which gives a complex number as a function of (n+2) four-momenta and of three two-valued (+ or -) indices, is the basic quantity in terms of which all the amplitudes should be written. A small algebraic effort to express amplitudes in terms of S as explained in detail in this section not only helps to compare results of different authors but also drastically improves the efficiency of numerical evaluations. A direct numerical evaluation of an amplitude written in four-spinor basis and with Lorentz contractions of different fermion strings is not only technically involved (and may thus easily lead to mistakes) but it is also numerically inefficient.

It is easy to set up a routine to evaluate the complex number S in Eq.(3.28). The most straightforward method, which is valid for arbitrary complex four-vectors a_k^{μ} , is to evaluate the 2 × 2 matrix multiplications recursively by introducing a series of complex two-spinors χ_k (k=1, ..., n):

$$\chi_{n} = \langle \mathbf{z}_{n} \rangle_{\delta_{n} \alpha} \chi_{\lambda_{j}}(\mathbf{p}_{j}) , \qquad (3.29a)$$

$$\chi_{k} = (\not{a}_{k})_{-\delta_{k}\alpha} \chi_{k+1} \quad \text{for} \quad k = 1, \dots, n-1 , \qquad (3.29b)$$

$$S(p_{i},a_{1},a_{2},\ldots,a_{n},p_{j})_{\lambda_{i}\lambda_{j}}^{\alpha} = \chi_{\lambda_{i}}^{\dagger}(p_{i}) \chi_{1} . \qquad (3.29c)$$

If all the participating four-vectors are real

$$a_k^{\mu}$$
 $* = a_k^{\mu}$, (3.30)

then we can express S entirely in terms of scalar quantities. First we observe the identity

$$(a)_{\pm} = (a)_{\pm} \chi_{\pm}(a) \chi_{\pm}^{\dagger}(a) + (a)_{\pm} \chi_{-}(a) \chi_{\pm}^{\dagger}(a)$$
 (3.31)

with

$$(a)_{\pm} = a^{\circ} \pm |\dot{a}| \qquad (3.32)$$

for an arbitrary real four momentum $a^{il} = (a^{\circ}, \dot{a}) = (a^{\circ}, a_x, a_y, a_z)$. By replacing all the 2 × 2 matrices in $[a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n]^{\alpha}$ via

$$(\mathbf{A}_{k})_{\delta_{k}\alpha} = \sum_{\tau_{k}=\pm} (\mathbf{a}_{k})_{\alpha\delta_{k}\tau_{k}} \mathbf{x}_{\tau_{k}}(\mathbf{a}_{k}) \mathbf{x}_{\tau_{k}}^{\dagger}(\mathbf{a}_{k})$$
(3.33)

we obtain the final expression:

$$s(\mathbf{p}_{i}, \mathbf{a}_{1}, \mathbf{a}_{2}, \dots, \mathbf{a}_{n}, \mathbf{p}_{j})_{\lambda_{i}\lambda_{j}}^{\alpha} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{n} & \sum_{k=1}^{n} \mathbf{n}_{k} & \mathbf{a}_{k} \\ \mathbf{p}_{i} \mathbf{a}_{k} \mathbf{a}_{k} \mathbf{a}_{k} \mathbf{a}_{k} \mathbf{a}_{k} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p}_{i}, \mathbf{a}_{1})_{\lambda_{i} \mathbf{t}_{1}} \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{a}_{1}, \mathbf{a}_{2})_{\tau_{1} \mathbf{t}_{2}} \\ \cdots \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{a}_{n-1}, \mathbf{a}_{n})_{\tau_{n-1} \tau_{n}} \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{a}_{n}, \mathbf{p}_{j})_{\tau_{n} \lambda_{j}} \cdot (3.34)$$

Here the term T denotes the scalar quantity

$$\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{a},\mathbf{b})_{\alpha\beta} = \chi_{\alpha}^{\dagger}(\mathbf{a}) \chi_{\beta}(\mathbf{b})$$
(3.35)

which can be expressed explicitly as

$$T(a,b)_{++} = N_{ab}^{-1} \left[(|\vec{a}| + a_z) (|\vec{b}| + b_z) + (a_x - ia_y) (b_x + ib_y) \right]$$
(3.36a)

$$\mathbb{T}(\mathbf{a},\mathbf{b})_{+-} = \mathbb{N}_{\mathbf{a}\mathbf{b}}^{-1} \left[-(|\mathbf{a}| + \mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{z}}) (\mathbf{b}_{\mathbf{x}} - \mathbf{i}\mathbf{b}_{\mathbf{y}}) + (\mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{x}} - \mathbf{i}\mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{y}}) (|\mathbf{b}| + \mathbf{b}_{\mathbf{z}}) \right]$$
(3.36b)

$$T(a,b)_{+} = -T(a,b)_{+-}^{*}$$
 (3.36c)

$$T(a,b)_{-} = T(a,b)_{++}^{*}$$
 (3.36d

with

$$N_{ab} = 2 \left[|\vec{a}| (|\vec{a}| + a_z) |\vec{b}| (|\vec{b}| + b_z) \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$
 (3.37)

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We observe that these are just the spinorial products introduced first by Kleiss¹², which is by no means surprising because our Weyl spinors can be identified with the massless four-spinors used in Ref. 12. These spinorial products satisfy

$$T(a,b)_{\alpha\beta} = T(b,a)_{\beta\alpha}$$
(3.38)

If one of the three vectors \vec{a} or \vec{b} , say \vec{a} , is along the negative z-axis, one needs a special treatment according to our convention (3.23);

$$T(a,b)_{++} = \left[2|\vec{b}| (|\vec{b}| + b_{z})\right]^{-\frac{1}{2}} (b_{x} + ib_{y}) , \qquad (3.39a)$$
$$T(a,b)_{+-} = \left[2|\vec{b}| (|\vec{b}| + b_{z})\right]^{-\frac{1}{2}} (|\vec{b}| + b_{z}) , \qquad (3.39b)$$

and the relations (3.36c) and (3.36d) remain valid. The expression (3.34) is particularly useful in two cases. If most of the four-momenta are light-like the conditions

$$(a_k)_{-} = 0$$
 if $a_k^0 = |a_k^+|$ (3.40)

get rid of most of the summations over τ_k 's, and if the number of 2 × 2 matrices (n) is small, very simple expressions arise. For n \leqslant 2 we obtain

$$S(p,k)^{\alpha}_{\lambda\sigma} = T(p,k)_{\lambda\sigma}$$
, (3.41a)

$$S(p,a,k)_{\lambda\sigma}^{\alpha} = \sum_{\tau=\pm}^{\lambda} (a)_{-\alpha\tau} T(p,a)_{\lambda\tau} T(a,k)_{\tau\sigma} , \qquad (3.41b)$$

$$S(p,a,b,k)\frac{\alpha}{\lambda\sigma} = \sum_{\tau=\pm} \sum_{\rho=\pm} (a)_{\alpha\tau} (b)_{\alpha\rho} T(p,a)_{\lambda\tau} T(a,b)_{\tau\rho} T(b,k)_{\rho\sigma}$$
(3.41c)

In our particular example of heavy lepton pair production and their decays, we encounter n = 0 and n = 1 cases only and all the final results are expressed directly in terms of the quantity T instead of

s.

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For completeness we add two general comments regarding our formalism even though we do not need them for the problem at hand.

(i) Strictly speaking, we should assign a number (real or complex) to the quantity $w_{\pm}(p)$ appearing in Eq.(3.26) only for the on-shell momentum

$$p^{o} = E = \left[\left| \stackrel{\rightarrow}{p} \right|^{2} + m^{2} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
 (3.42)

As exemplified in the previous section, it is still possible to combine two amplitudes with a common fermion leg via

$$\sum_{\lambda} M_1[(\mathbf{p},\lambda),\ldots] M_2[(\mathbf{p},\lambda),\ldots] D(\mathbf{p}^2)$$
(3.43)

interpreting the fermion now as an intermediate state. Once this intermediate state gets virtual, however, the $\omega_{\pm}(p)$ can no longer be well defined, because their products must satisfy the following conditions,

$$\omega_{+}(p) \ \omega_{-}(p) = m$$
, (3.44a)

$$\omega_{\pm}(\mathbf{p}) \quad \omega_{\pm}(\mathbf{p}) = \mathbf{p}^{\circ} \pm \left| \stackrel{*}{\mathbf{p}} \right| = \left(\mathbf{p} \right)_{\pm} . \tag{3.44b}$$

This convention is needed in order to obtain the correct propagator factors in 4×4 notation:

$$\sum_{\lambda} u(p,\lambda) \bar{u}(p,\lambda) = \sum_{\lambda} \begin{pmatrix} \omega_{-\lambda}(p) \omega_{\lambda}(p) \chi_{\lambda}(p) \chi_{\lambda}^{\dagger}(p) & \omega_{-\lambda}(p) \omega_{-\lambda}(p) \chi_{\lambda}(p) \chi_{\lambda}^{\dagger}(p) \\ \omega_{\lambda}(p) \omega_{\lambda}(p) \chi_{\lambda}(p) \chi_{\lambda}^{\dagger}(p) & \omega_{\lambda}(p) \omega_{-\lambda}(p) \chi_{\lambda}(p) \chi_{\lambda}^{\dagger}(p) \end{pmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{pmatrix} m & \not p_{+} \\ \not p_{-} & m \end{pmatrix} = \not p + m \qquad (3.45)$$

and similarly for antifermions. When dealing with virtual intermediate fermions, only the product M_1M_2 is defined in Eq.(3.43), which is expressed in terms of S's and the assignment (3.44). This point is important when finite width effects have to be considered. Since we

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are working in the zero width approximation, we need not worry about this point.

(ii) In order to take advantage of the simple formulae (3.41) and (3.34), all the four-vectors, in particular all the vector boson polarization vectors should be real. This prevents us from using the helicity basis for vector bosons unless we express the polarization vectors entirely in terms of other momenta (as in the CALKUL basis¹¹) which is just an unnecessary complexity in our formalism. We thus choose a rectangular basis⁹ for our standard vector boson wave functions. Just as the spinors in Eq.(3.22), the polarization vectors are expressed entirely in terms of vector boson four momenta,

$$k^{\mu} = (E, k_{x}, k_{y}, k_{z}) , \qquad (3.46a)$$

$$E = \left[\left| \vec{k} \right|^{2} + m^{2} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} , \qquad (3.46b)$$

$$k_{T} = \left[\left(k_{x} \right)^{2} + \left(k_{y} \right)^{2} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} , \qquad (3.46c)$$

as follows:

$$\epsilon^{\mu}(\mathbf{k}, \lambda=1) = (|\mathbf{k}| \mathbf{k}_{T})^{-1} (0, \mathbf{k}_{x} \mathbf{k}_{z}, \mathbf{k}_{y} \mathbf{k}_{z}, -\mathbf{k}_{T}^{2}) , \qquad (3.47a)$$

$$\epsilon^{\mu}(\mathbf{k}, \lambda=2) = (\mathbf{k}_{T})^{-1} (0, -\mathbf{k}_{y}, \mathbf{k}_{x}, 0) , \qquad (3.47b)$$

$$\epsilon^{\mu}(\mathbf{k},\lambda=3) = (E/m|\mathbf{k}|) (|\mathbf{k}|^2/E,\mathbf{k}_x,\mathbf{k}_y,\mathbf{k}_z)$$
 (3.47c)

It is easy to verify the following identities, satisfied by the above polarization vectors,

$$\epsilon_{\mu} \varepsilon^{\mu}(\mathbf{k}, \lambda) = 0 , \qquad (3.48a)$$

$$\varepsilon_{\mu}(\mathbf{k},\lambda) \varepsilon^{\mu}(\mathbf{k},\lambda') = -\delta_{\lambda\lambda'}$$
 (3.48b)

Massless vector bosons have only two polarization states, $\lambda = 1$ and 2, on their mass-shell. Helicity eigenvectors are expressed as

$$\varepsilon^{\mu}(\mathbf{k},\lambda=\pm) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[\mp \varepsilon^{\mu}(\mathbf{k},\lambda=1) - \pm \varepsilon^{\mu}(\mathbf{k},\lambda=2) \right] . \tag{3.49}$$

Hence whenever one needs helicity amplitudes, they are obtained from our standard amplitudes via

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$$M(\{k, \lambda = \pm\}, \ldots) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[\mp M(\{k, \lambda = 1\}, \ldots) - iM(\{k, \lambda = 2\}, \ldots) \right]$$
(3.50)

4. Analytic form of production and decay amplitudes

We are now in a position to express the amplitudes M_{i} , i = 1,2,3 of Eq.(2.1) in terms of the quantities ω and T introduced in the last section. In order to be able to treat t and b quarks in the final state as well as a non-negligible mass of v_{L} , we allow all the fermion masses to be arbitrary.

By contracting the vector boson propagator factors, and by using the Fierz identities, Eq.(3.16), the generic amplitude (2.5) can be cast into the form

$$M_{\rm g} = 2 e^{2} \sum_{\rm V} D_{\rm V}(q^{2}) \sum_{\alpha=\pm} \sum_{\beta=\pm} q^{\rm Vab}_{\alpha} q^{\rm Vcd}_{\beta}$$

$$\cdot \left\{ \delta_{\alpha\beta} \left[(\psi_{\rm a})^{\dagger}_{\alpha} (\psi_{\rm b})_{\alpha} \cdot (\psi_{\rm c})^{\dagger}_{\beta} (\psi_{\rm d})_{\beta} - (\psi_{\rm a})^{\dagger}_{\alpha} (\psi_{\rm d})_{\beta} \cdot (\psi_{\rm c})^{\dagger}_{\beta} (\psi_{\rm b})_{\alpha} \right]$$

$$+ \delta_{\alpha, -\beta} (\psi_{\rm a})^{\dagger}_{\alpha} (\psi_{\rm d})_{\beta} \cdot (\psi_{\rm c})^{\dagger}_{\beta} (\psi_{\rm b})_{\alpha}$$

$$- \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{\rm V} (\psi_{\rm a})^{\dagger}_{\alpha} (q)_{\alpha} (\psi_{\rm b})_{\alpha} \cdot (\psi_{\rm c})^{\dagger}_{\beta} (q)_{\beta} (\psi_{\rm d})_{\beta} \right\} \qquad (4.1a)$$

with

$$\varepsilon_{\rm V} = \begin{cases} 0 \quad \text{for } {\rm V} = \gamma , \\ 1/m_{\rm V}^2 \quad \text{for } {\rm V} = {\rm W}, {\rm Z} . \end{cases}$$
(4.1b)

The term proportional to ε_V survives only when the massive vector boson couples-exclusively to non-conserved currents and is nonnegligible only for the L $\Rightarrow v_T$, \tilde{t} b decay in the present example. With the help of Eqs.(3.26) and (3.41), we obtain the standard form

of the generic amplitude

$$\begin{split} M_{\rm G} &= 2 \, {\rm e}^2 \, \sum_{\rm V} \, {\rm p}_{\rm V}({\rm q}^2) \, \sum_{\alpha=\pm} \, \sum_{\beta=\pm} \, {\rm q}^{\rm Vab}_{\alpha} \, {\rm q}^{\rm Vcd}_{\beta} \, \, \omega_{\alpha\lambda_a}({\rm p}_a) \omega_{\alpha\lambda_b}({\rm p}_b) \, \omega_{\beta\lambda_c}({\rm p}_c) \omega_{\beta\lambda_d}({\rm p}_d) \\ & \cdot \, {\rm C}_{\rm G} \, \left\{ \delta_{\alpha\beta} \, {\rm T}({\rm p}_a,{\rm p}_b) \, \lambda_a \lambda_b \, \, \, {\rm T}({\rm p}_c,{\rm p}_d) \, \lambda_c \lambda_d \right. \\ & + \, (\delta_{\alpha,-\beta} - \delta_{\alpha\beta}) \, {\rm T}({\rm p}_a,{\rm p}_d) \, \lambda_a \lambda_d \, \, {\rm T}({\rm p}_c,{\rm p}_b) \, \lambda_c \lambda_b \\ & - \, \frac{1}{2} \, \, \varepsilon_{\rm V} \, \, {\rm S}({\rm p}_a,{\rm q},{\rm p}_b) \, \lambda_a \lambda_b \, \, \, {\rm S}({\rm p}_c,{\rm q},{\rm p}_d) \, \lambda_c \lambda_d \, \right\} \qquad (4.2) \end{split}$$

where the factor $C_G = C_a C_b C_c C_d$ is determined by the crossing property of each process via Eq.(3.27) and turns out to be

$$C_{G} = \begin{cases} \alpha\beta & \text{in } M_{1} \\ \beta & \text{in } M_{2} \text{ and } M_{3} \end{cases}$$
(4.3)

This general expression suffices for determining all three amplitudes. The relevant momenta, helicities, and the standard model couplings to insert for each process can be inferred from Table 1. One merely has to observe that for antiparticles helicities are reversed in the generic amplitude (4.2) (see Eq. (3.20) and Table 1).

In the following we show more explicit formulae for the process by choosing the standard model couplings (Table 1), neglecting the electron mass, and by using the physical helicities for antiparticles to demonstrate our notation clearly. More general cases can easily be inferred from the generic formula (4.2).

In the heavy lepton decay $L \rightarrow \nu_L \bar{f}_2 f_3$ (M_2), only the W boson is exchanged with left-handed couplings ($\alpha = \beta = -$) to fermions. Furthermore, we can simplify the last term in the generic expression (4.1) by making use of the Dirac equations (3.24). The result of the substitution reads

$$\begin{split} &\mathcal{M}_{2}(\mathbf{q}_{1},\sigma_{1};\mathbf{p}_{1},\sigma_{1};\mathbf{i}=1,2,3) = -8\pi\alpha D_{W}((\mathbf{p}_{2}+\mathbf{p}_{3})^{2}) \mathbf{g}_{-}^{W\nu}\mathbf{L}^{\mathbf{L}} \mathbf{g}_{-}^{Wf}\mathbf{f}_{2}^{f}\mathbf{f}_{3} \\ &\cdot \left\{ \mathbf{w}_{-\sigma_{1}}(\mathbf{q}_{1})\mathbf{w}_{-\lambda_{1}}(\mathbf{p}_{1})\mathbf{w}_{\lambda_{2}}(\mathbf{p}_{2})\mathbf{w}_{-\lambda_{3}}(\mathbf{p}_{3}) \\ &\cdot \left[\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p}_{1},\mathbf{q}_{1})_{\lambda_{1},\sigma_{1}} \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p}_{3},\mathbf{p}_{2})_{\lambda_{3},-\lambda_{2}} - \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p}_{1},\mathbf{p}_{2})_{\lambda_{1},-\lambda_{2}} \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p}_{3},\mathbf{q}_{1})_{\lambda_{3},\sigma_{1}} \right] \\ &- \frac{1}{2m_{W}^{2}} \left[\mathbf{m}_{\mathbf{L}}\mathbf{\omega}_{-\lambda_{1}}(\mathbf{p}_{1})\mathbf{w}_{\sigma_{1}}(\mathbf{q}_{1}) - \mathbf{m}_{1}\mathbf{w}_{\lambda_{1}}(\mathbf{p}_{1})\mathbf{w}_{-\sigma_{1}}(\mathbf{q}_{1}) \right] \\ &\cdot \left[\mathbf{m}_{2}^{\omega}-\lambda_{2}(\mathbf{p}_{2})\mathbf{w}_{-\lambda_{3}}(\mathbf{p}_{3}) + \mathbf{m}_{3}^{\omega}\mathbf{w}_{2}(\mathbf{p}_{2})\mathbf{w}_{\lambda_{3}}(\mathbf{p}_{3}) \right] \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p}_{1},\mathbf{q}_{1})_{\lambda_{1},\sigma_{1}} \mathbf{T}(\mathbf{p}_{3},\mathbf{p}_{2})_{\lambda_{3},-\lambda_{2}} \right\} \end{split}$$

(4.4)

where $\alpha = e^{2}/4\pi$, $m_{1} = m_{v_{L}}$, $m_{2} = m_{f_{2}}$, $m_{3} = m_{f_{3}}$. In most cases of interest this amplitude can be simplified significantly. First, the expression (4.4) makes it explicit that the latter term proportional to $1/m_{W}^{2}$ is important only when m_{2}/m_{W} or m_{3}/m_{W} is non-negligible, i.e., for the $L + v_{L}\bar{t}$ b decay only (if fourth generation quarks are heavier than L). Second, the relation

$$\lim_{p^{2} \neq 0} \omega_{\lambda}(p) = \delta_{\lambda, +} \sqrt{2p^{2}}$$
(4.5)

reduces the number of non-vanishing amplitudes whenever a light fermion exists. Hence if the condition

$$m_{f_2}^2$$
, $m_{f_3}^2 << m_L^2$ (4.6)

is satisfied, the formula (4.4) reduces to

$$M_{2} = -\frac{4\pi\alpha}{\sin^{2}\theta_{W}} D_{W} ((p_{2}+p_{3})^{2}) 2\sqrt{p_{2}^{o}p_{3}^{o}} \delta_{\lambda_{2},+} \delta_{\lambda_{3},-} U_{-\sigma_{1}} (q_{1}) U_{-\lambda_{1}} (p_{1}) \\ \cdot \left[T(p_{1},q_{1})_{\lambda_{1},\sigma_{1}} T(p_{3},p_{2})_{-} - T(p_{1},p_{2})_{\lambda_{1},-} T(p_{3},q_{1})_{-,\sigma_{1}} \right]$$

$$(4.7)$$

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which still incorporates exact $\mathbf{m}_{\mathcal{V}_{\tau}}$ dependence.

The amplitude for \overline{L} decay is related to Eq.(4.4) by the crossing relations given in Table 1 and by the property (3.38) of the T's: it is obtained from Eq.(4.4) by the substitution

$$(\mathbf{q}_{1}, \sigma_{1}; \mathbf{p}_{1}, \lambda_{1}; \mathbf{p}_{2}, \lambda_{2}; \mathbf{p}_{3}, \lambda_{3}) \neq (\mathbf{q}_{2}, -\sigma_{2}; \mathbf{p}_{4}, -\lambda_{4}; \mathbf{p}_{5}, -\lambda_{5}; \mathbf{p}_{6}, -\lambda_{6}) \quad (4.8)$$

and by taking the complex conjegate of the full amplitude except the propagator factor D_w . In the simplified case where f_5 and f_6 masses are negligible, we find explicitly

$$M_{3} = -\frac{4\pi\alpha}{\sin^{2}\theta_{W}} D_{W} ((p_{5}+p_{6})^{2}) 2\sqrt{p_{5}^{o}p_{6}^{o}} \delta_{\lambda_{5},-} \delta_{\lambda_{6},+} \omega_{\sigma_{2}}(q_{2}) \omega_{\lambda_{4}}(p_{4}) \\ \cdot \left[T(q_{2},p_{4})_{-\sigma_{2},-\lambda_{4}} T(p_{5},p_{6})_{--} - T(p_{5},p_{4})_{-,-\lambda_{4}} T(q_{2},p_{6})_{-\sigma_{2},-} \right]$$

$$(4.9)$$

Neglecting light fermion masses is even more justified for the production amplitude (M_1) for $e^+e^- \rightarrow L\bar{L}$. In the $m_e^- = 0$ limit it is given by

$$\begin{split} & \mathsf{M}(\mathbf{e}^{+}\mathbf{e}^{-} \star \mathbf{L}\tilde{\mathbf{L}}) = \mathsf{M}_{1}(\mathbf{k}_{1}, \kappa_{1}; \mathbf{q}_{1}, \sigma_{1}; \mathbf{i} = 1, 2) = \\ & -8\pi \alpha \ 2\sqrt{\kappa_{1}^{o}\kappa_{2}^{o}} \ \delta_{\kappa_{1}, -\kappa_{2}} \sum_{\mathbf{V}=\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{Z}} \mathsf{D}_{\mathbf{V}}(\mathbf{s}) \ \mathbf{g}_{\kappa_{1}}^{\mathsf{Vee}} \cdot \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} \mathsf{g}_{\kappa_{1}}^{\mathsf{VLL}} \boldsymbol{\omega}_{\kappa_{1}\sigma_{1}}(\mathbf{q}_{1}) \boldsymbol{\omega}_{\kappa_{2}\sigma_{2}}(\mathbf{q}_{2}) \\ + \ \mathbf{g}_{-\kappa_{1}}^{\mathsf{VLL}} \boldsymbol{\omega}_{\kappa_{2}\sigma_{1}}(\mathbf{q}_{1}) \boldsymbol{\omega}_{\kappa_{1}\sigma_{2}}(\mathbf{q}_{2}) \end{bmatrix} \mathsf{T}(\mathbf{k}_{2}, \mathbf{q}_{2}) - \kappa_{2}, -\sigma_{2} \ \mathsf{T}(\mathbf{q}_{1}, \mathbf{k}_{1}) \sigma_{1}, \kappa_{1} \\ & - \ \mathbf{g}_{\kappa_{1}}^{\mathsf{VLL}} \boldsymbol{\omega}_{\kappa_{1}\sigma_{1}}(\mathbf{q}_{1}) \boldsymbol{\omega}_{\kappa_{2}\sigma_{2}}(\mathbf{q}_{2}) \ \mathsf{T}(\mathbf{k}_{2}, \mathbf{k}_{1}) - \kappa_{2}, \kappa_{1} \ \mathsf{T}(\mathbf{q}_{1}, \mathbf{q}_{2}) \sigma_{1}, -\sigma_{2} \\ \end{split}$$

When working in the e^+e^- c.m. frame the last term in eq.(4.10) vanishes identically. This happens because

$$\mathbf{T}(\mathbf{k}_{2},\mathbf{k}_{1})_{-\kappa_{2},\kappa_{1}}\Big|_{\kappa_{2}=-\kappa_{1}} = \chi_{\kappa_{1}}^{\dagger}(-\vec{\mathbf{k}}_{1}) \chi_{\kappa_{1}}(\vec{\mathbf{k}}_{1}) = 0$$
(4.11)

by virtue of the orthogonality properties of helicity eigenstates.

It should be noticed, however, that dropping this term spoils the Lorentz-covariance of the amplitude.

In the calculations performed for producing the graphs of the next section we have made use of the zero mass approximation for the decay products of virtual (or real) W's. It is amusing, however, that the complete expressions, including all mass effects, can be written down so simply.

5. Heavy lepton signals

The expressions derived for the amplitudes in the previous section can easily be evaluated numerically and assembled to give the complete differential cross-section $d\sigma/d\Phi_6$. We have written a Fortran program for this purpose, which then uses the Monte Carlo integration routine VEGAS¹⁷ in order to perform the 11-dimensional phase space integral.

The program was checked as follows. First the Lorentz invariance of $d\sigma/d\Phi_6$ was verified numerically. Second, it reproduces some well known quantities, the total cross-section, the heavy lepton decay width and the heavy lepton polar angle distribution. Further qualitative tests were made by reproducing the distributions given by Baer et al.⁴. Numerical efficiency of the algorithm is found satisfactory; on an IBM 3081 various distributions are generated with 10^5 phase space points in 6 CPU minutes of which more than $\frac{1}{3}$ is used to set up phase space and fill numbers of histograms.

Heavy leptons, once they are produced, will either decay leptonically into $v\bar{v}e$, $v\bar{v}\mu$, $v\bar{v}\tau$ or hadronically into $v\bar{u}d$, $v\bar{c}s$ with ratios 1:1:1:3:3. Decays into $v\bar{t}b$ are negligible at TRISTAN or LEP/SLC energies: a 45 GeV heavy lepton has a branching fraction into $v\bar{t}b$ well below 1% even if optimistic values like $m_t = 30$ GeV,

 $m_{\rm V}$ = 0 are assumed. This is not true any more for LEP II energies: L

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the decay products of a heavy lepton pair with $m_L = 90$ GeV may contain a top quark with more than 30% probability if the top mass is low enough. In the following we will not consider the vtb decay mode of heavy leptons and hence some exercise on its effects should be made at LEP II energies before a more realistic confrontation is made. Likewise, we do not study the effects caused by τ decays. Its leptonic decay contaminates the e + dijet and μ + dijet signal in the low lepton energy tail. Cuts in final lepton energy can easily make the τ contribution negligible. Its hadronic decay produces a single very narrow jet as opposed to dijets from direct heavy lepton decay and should easily be distinguished. Anyway, it is a straightforward exercise¹⁸ to implement polarized τ decay distributions in our algorithm.

The observed signals of $L\tilde{L}$ production can be classified according to their jet content:

- (a) $L\vec{L} \neq v_L \vec{v}_L q_1 \vec{q}_2 q_3 \vec{q}_4$ resulting in 4 jets + missing momentum. (b) $L\vec{L} \neq \ell^{\pm} q_1 \vec{q}_2$ + 3 neutrinos resulting in a dijet + charged lepton + missing momentum signal.
- (c) $LL \rightarrow l^+ l^{--} + neutrinos producing an opposite sign dilepton$

+ missing momentum signal.

The probabilities of the three classes are roughly 44:35:7 when τ leptonic decays are included. The common feature of all the $L\bar{L}$ decay modes is missing four-momentum carried away by the neutrinos. This together with the charged leptons or multijets will give a very clean signal for heavy lepton production within the standard model. In Figures 3 and 4 the resulting distributions of missing transverse momentum (\not{p}_{T}) are shown for a beam energy $E_{b} = 35$ GeV, a heavy lepton mass $m_{L} = 0.9 E_{b}$ and three values of the ν_{L} mass: $m_{\nu_{L}} = 0, 0.3 m_{L}, 0.5 m_{L}$. Figure 3 shows the \not{p}_{T} -distribution for 4 jet + \not{p}_{T} events while Figure 4 is for 2 jets + $\mu^{\pm} + \not{p}_{T}$ events: due to the additional

muon neutrino the class (b) distribution (Fig. 4) is somewhat harder than the one of the class (a) (Fig. 3).

In Figures 5 to 7 the missing energy (\mathbf{E}) signal is shown for 4 jets + p events at three different energies: $E_{p} = 35$ GeV, 46.5 GeV = $m_{q}/2$, and 100 GeV respectively. Again we have chosen $\rm m_L$ = 0.9 $\rm E_{\rm b}$ and the m_{v_{\rm r}} = 0, 0.1 m_L, 0.3 m_L, 0.5 m_L curves are given. Obviously the # distributions are much more sensitive to a non-zero neutrino mass than the $p_{\rm T}$ signal: observation of $m_{\rm V} \neq 0$ appears to be possible down to $m_{v_{1}} = 0.1 m_{L}$ at $E_{b} < m_{W}$. While the Z-distributions are very similar at $E_{\rm b}$ = 35 GeV and $E_{\rm b}$ = $m_{\rm g}/2$ (this actually is true for all the distributions shown in Figures 3-10), a much higher sensitivity for ${\rm m_{_{V_{_{\rm r}}}}} \neq 0$ is obtained at ${\rm E_{_{\rm b}}}$ = 100 GeV, ${\rm m_{_{\rm L}}}$ = 90 GeV (Fig. 7). This sensitivity is simply a consequence of the fact that a 90 GeV heavy lepton predominantly decays into a real W plus a $\nu^{}_{_{\rm T}}$ if m $_{\nu_{_{T}}}$ is small enough. At m $_{\nu_{_{T}}}$ = 8 GeV already, the threshold for the $L \rightarrow v_{\tau}W$ decay mode is crossed, resulting in a very strong $m_{v_{\tau}}$ dependence of differential cross-sections. It should be noted that the $\not\!\!\!\!/ z$ distributions are more sensitive to the QED radiative corrections than the $\not\!\!\!/_m$ distributions due to the emission of collinear hard photons in the initial channel. Realistic confrontations of the Z distributions with experiments should include the radiative effects as well. Here we show qualitative trends in order to examine what could be achieved in actual experiments.

At LEP/SLC and TRISTAN energies, a high sensitivity for a nonzero neutrino mass is also found in the dijet energy and dijet invariant mass distributions for the process $e^+e^- \rightarrow L^+L^- + \mu^{\pm} +$ 2 jets + 3 neutrinos. In Figures 8 and 9 they are given for a machine operating at the Z mass assuming $m_L = 0.9 E_b$. As mentioned earlier results for TRISTAN are very similar. In Figure 10 the $\mu - e$ invariant mass distribution is given for the process $e^+e^- + L\bar{L} \rightarrow e^{\pm}\mu^{\mp} + 4$ neutrinos at $E_b = 35$ GeV, $m_L = 0.9 E_b$ and $m_{v_L} = (0, 0.1, 0.3, 0.5) m_L$. Sensitivity of this signal for neutrino mass measurements is not as high as in the dijet energy and dijet invariant mass distributions, and furthermore the $m_{\mu e}$ distribution will be affected in the lower mass region by the 28% contamination of secondary muons or electrons arising from the τ decay modes.

So far we have assumed the mass m_L of the heavy lepton to be known. The easiest and most precise way to measure it will probably be to follow the threshold behaviour of the ratio

$$R = \frac{\sigma \left(e^+e^- \to L\bar{L}\right)}{\sigma \left(e^+e^- \to \mu^+\mu^-\right)}$$
(5.1)

If $2m_{_{\rm T}}$ is between TRISTAN and SLC/LEP-I energies, a method for measuring m_{r} at fixed beam energy $E_{b} = m_{z}^{2}/2$ is advantageous. Due to the almost axial coupling of Z to standard charged leptons the ratio R is proportional to β^3 due to the P-wave production, and measuring the LL production cross-section allows a rather precise mass determination⁴. This method is of course very much dependent on the assumption of standard couplings of L to Z and W^{\pm} , and a complementary method is highly desirable. Here we suggest determining the dijet opening angle in the $L\bar{L} \rightarrow 2$ jets + $l^{\pm} + p_m$ decay mode which measures the boost factor of the dijet system from the $\binom{(-)}{L}$ rest frame to the lab. frame. Figures 11 and 12 show the resulting distributions for $m_{_{\rm T}}$ = 40, 41, 42 GeV and $m_{_{\rm T}}$ = 29, 30 GeV respectively. For both figures ${\rm E}_{\rm b}$ = ${\rm m}_{\rm Z}^{}/2$ and ${\rm m}_{\nu_{\rm r}}$ = 0 was chosen. Figure 11 clearly reflects the strong β^3 threshold dependence, but at the same time the change in dijet angular distribution is apparent. This increase of dijet opening angle with increasing $m_{T_{i}}$ is even more pronounced in Figure 12.

The distributions shown so far are to a large extent given by kinematics, which seems to be sufficient to identify $L\bar{L}$ events, to measure neutrino masses etc. In order to get a handle on the dynamics and in particular on the V,A structure of the heavy lepton's couplings, angular distributions have to be analysed. The V,Acouplings of $L\bar{L}$ to Z determine the heavy lepton's polar angle distribution. As a tag on the direction of L, the direction of its decay muon or electron can be used. The resulting polar angle distribution of μ^- with respect to the e⁻ beam is shown in Figure 13 for standard model couplings, at $E_b = m_Z/2$, $m_L = 0.9 E_b$ and $m_{V_L} = 0$. It reproduces the angular distribution of its parent heavy lepton (the solid line in Figure 13) rather poorly, because $L\bar{L}$ production too close to the threshold is considered. Nevertheless it should be possible to determine the heavy lepton forward-backward charge asymmetry this way.

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Use of the total momentum of the dijet system recoiling against a μ^+ or e⁺ allows for a much improved L polar angle distribution. Because in the decay $L \rightarrow \nu_L \bar{q}_2 q_3$ only the neutrino ν_L remains unobserved, kinematics allows us to determine the magnitude of the component of the neutrino momentum perpendicular to the dijet momentum, \vec{p}_T , once an upper bound on m_{ν_L} has been set. Denoting the ν_L momentum by p_1 and the dijet momentum by $p_2 + p_3$ as in Figure 1 we indeed find

$$\vec{p}_{1} \cdot (\vec{p}_{2} + \vec{p}_{3}) = (E_{b} - E_{jj})E_{jj} + \frac{m_{jj}^{2} + m_{vL}^{2} - m_{L}^{2}}{2}$$
 (5.2a)

$$\dot{p}_{1}^{2} = (E_{b} - E_{jj})^{2} - m_{v_{L}}^{2}$$
 (5.2b)

and

$$\begin{vmatrix} \vec{p}_{1T} \\ \vec{p}_{1T} \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{p}_{1} & -\frac{\vec{p}_{1} \cdot (\vec{p}_{2} + \vec{p}_{3})}{(\vec{p}_{2} + \vec{p}_{3})^{2}} (\vec{p}_{2} + \vec{p}_{3}) \end{vmatrix}$$
$$= \left[\vec{p}_{1}^{2} - \frac{(\vec{p}_{1} \cdot (\vec{p}_{2} + \vec{p}_{3}))^{2}}{E_{jj}^{2} - m_{jj}^{2}} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
(5.3)

can hence be determined experimentally for each event. Since the dijet direction is a good measure of the heavy lepton direction if $|\dot{p}_{1T}|$ is small, a cut on

$$n = |\dot{\vec{p}}_{1T}| / E_{b}$$
 (5.4)

will considerably improve the correlation between dijet and L angular distributions, as is clearly visible in Figures 14 and 15. The price to be paid for the $\eta \leq 0.2$ cut is a loss in statistics by roughly a factor of 3.

While the dijet angular distribution (with respect to the beam axis) is sensitive to the V,A structure of the production amplitude, the correlation of light lepton and dijet directions can distinguish between V + A and V - A coupling of the (v_LL) doublet to W^{\pm} . This is because the L⁻ and μ^- momenta prefer to be aligned when both couple to left-handed weak currents, while the μ^- will rather go backwards to the L⁻ momentum, if the parent L⁻ has V + A coupling to W⁻. The effect is clearly visible in Figure 16.

A μ or e going in a direction opposite to its parent, will on the average have a lower energy in the laboratory than a lepton arising from a left-handed L. Figures 17 and 18 show the difference between V + A coupling and V - A coupling for the muon energy and the dilepton mass distributions. Distinguishing V + A from V - A appears to be straightforward and it also should be possible to determine the vector and axial couplings to the W individually.

6. Heavy neutrino production

The expressions derived in section 4 for heavy charged lepton production and decay amplitudes can directly be used for massive neutrino (N) production and decay: it suffices to replace the heavy charged lepton couplings by the appropriate neutrino couplings. In particular $g_{\alpha}^{\gamma NN} = 0$ in the production amplitude, and in the decay N $\rightarrow \&^{-}$ + (virtual) W^{+} a mixing angle $U_{N\dot{z}}$ has to be introduced. If N is a Majorana particle, N and \bar{N} have to be treated as identical particles. The production amplitude is then obtained from Eq.(4.5) by choosing appropriate couplings and by antisymmetrizing it in (q_{1}, σ_{1}) and (q_{2}, σ_{2}) .

Determining the properties of a heavy neutrino will actually be easier than for a charged heavy lepton. This is so because more of the final state fermions will carry charge, the dominant decay mode usually giving two charged leptons and four jets. If the N mass is sufficiently small and/or if the mixing angle $U_{N\ell}$ is tiny it may even be possible to determine the N lifetime from its decay in flight.

If there exist large flavor changing neutral current couplings between neutrinos $g_{\alpha}^{ZN_1N_2}$, as in some models with mirror fermions¹⁹, then different mass neutrinos can be pair produced and their decays can proceed via both charged and neutral current. Our general formula with arbitrary mass and couplings will be most suited to study the consequences of such models.

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It is clear that longitudinal polarization of the colliding e^+e^- beams will be very useful for a detailed study of electroweak theory. Transverse polarization of the beams is not only necessary to establish the longitudinal polarization but it can, in itself, be useful for probing non-standard (scalar²⁰ or magnetic²¹) couplings of electrons. In practice, the beam polarization will be only partially longitudinal and partially transverse.

The helicity amplitudes given in Section 4 can be used directly to produce cross-sections for longitudinally polarized beams. For arbitrary polarization direction we follow the notation used by Olsen et al.²². We describe a general state of partial or complete polarization of the e^+ and e^- beams by the polarization vectors

$$s_{\pm}^{\mu} = p_{\pm}^{T}(0, \hat{s}_{\pm}) + p_{\pm}^{L}(|\dot{p}_{\pm}|, E_{\pm}\hat{p}_{\pm})/m$$
(7.1)

where \hat{s}_{\pm} are unit 3-vectors perpendicular to the beam directions \hat{p}_{\pm} and \hat{p}_{\pm} . p_{\pm}^{T} denote the degrees of transverse polarization and p_{\pm}^{L} the degrees of longitudinal polarization and they are bounded by

$$\rho_{\pm} = \left[(p_{\pm}^{\mathrm{T}})^{2} + (p_{\pm}^{\mathrm{L}})^{2} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq 1 \quad .$$
 (7.2)

We introduce

$$\cos\zeta_{\pm} = P_{\pm}^{L} / \rho_{\pm} ; \quad \sin\zeta_{\pm} = P_{\pm}^{T} / \rho_{\pm}$$
(7.3)

in order to obtain the unit space-like 4-vectors

$$\mathbf{n}_{\pm}^{\mu} = \sin \boldsymbol{\zeta}_{\pm}(\mathbf{0}, \hat{\boldsymbol{s}}_{\pm}) + \cos \boldsymbol{\zeta}_{\pm}(\left| \stackrel{\downarrow}{\mathbf{p}}_{\pm} \right|, \mathbf{E}_{\pm} \, \hat{\boldsymbol{p}}_{\pm}) / \boldsymbol{\mathfrak{m}}$$
(7.4)

which define the projectors onto spinors describing electrons and positrons polarized in the $\epsilon_{\pm}n_{\pm}$ (ϵ_{\pm} = + or -) direction:

$$u(p_{,\varepsilon_n}) = \frac{1 + \varepsilon_{\gamma_5} u_{-}}{2} u(p_{,\varepsilon_n})$$
(7.5a)

$$v(p_{+}, \varepsilon_{+}n_{+}) = \frac{1 + \varepsilon_{+}\gamma_{5}\mu_{+}}{2} u(p_{+}, \varepsilon_{+}n_{+})$$
(7.5b)

It is straightforward to expand these spinors in terms of helicity eigenstates

$$u(p_{\lambda}) = \begin{pmatrix} u_{\mu}(p_{\lambda}) \\ u_{\mu}(p_{\lambda}) \end{pmatrix}$$
(7.6a)

$$v(\mathbf{p}_{+},\lambda) = \begin{pmatrix} v_{-}(\mathbf{p}_{+},\lambda) \\ v_{+}(\mathbf{p}_{+},\lambda) \end{pmatrix}$$
(7.6b)

defined in Eq.(3.20). In the massless limit (m \rightarrow 0) we find

$$\begin{pmatrix} u(p_{,n_{}}) \\ u(p_{,-n_{}}) \end{pmatrix} = \sum_{\lambda} U_{\varepsilon_{,\lambda}} u(p_{,\lambda}) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\frac{\zeta_{-}}{2} & \sin\frac{\zeta_{-}}{2} & i\alpha_{-} \\ -\sin\frac{\zeta_{-}}{2} & e^{-i\alpha_{-}} & \cos\frac{\zeta_{-}}{2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u(p_{,+}) \\ u(p_{,-}) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(7.7a)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{p}_{+},\mathbf{n}_{+}) \\ \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{p}_{+},-\mathbf{n}_{+}) \end{pmatrix} = \sum_{\lambda} \mathbf{v}_{\varepsilon_{+},\lambda} \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{p}_{+},\lambda) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\frac{\zeta_{+}}{2} & -\sin\frac{\zeta_{+}}{2} e^{-i\alpha_{+}} \\ \sin\frac{\zeta_{+}}{2} e^{i\alpha_{+}} & \cos\frac{\zeta_{+}}{2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{p}_{+},+) \\ \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{p}_{+},-) \end{pmatrix},$$

$$(7.7b)$$

The phase factors $\exp(i\alpha_{\pm})$ are given by the orientation of \hat{p}_{\pm} and \hat{s}_{\pm} in the coordinate frame. To be specific we choose

$$\hat{p}_{\pm} = (\sin\theta_{\pm} \cos\phi_{\pm}, \sin\theta_{\pm} \sin\phi_{\pm}, \cos\theta_{\pm})$$
(7.8)

and

$$\hat{s}_{\pm} = \begin{pmatrix} \sin\psi_{\pm} \sin\phi_{\pm} + \cos\psi_{\pm} \cos\theta_{\pm} \cos\phi_{\pm}, \\ -\sin\psi_{\pm} \cos\phi_{\pm} + \cos\psi_{\pm} \cos\theta_{\pm} \sin\phi_{\pm}, \\ -\sin\theta_{\pm} \cos\psi_{\pm} \end{pmatrix}^{T}$$
(7.9)

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then we find

$$\alpha_{+} = \phi_{+} - \psi_{+}$$
 (7.10)

We can now relate arbitrary polarization amplitudes to helicity amplitudes. For an arbitrary process $e^+e^- \rightarrow X$ we use $M_{\epsilon_-\epsilon_+}$ to denote the amplitude for an electron polarized in the ϵ_-n_- and a positron polarized in the ϵ_+n_+ direction and $M(\kappa_1,\kappa_2)$ for the corresponding helicity amplitude (treatment of final state polarizations is implicit in the sequel). From Eq.(7.7) we find

$$M_{\varepsilon_{-}\varepsilon_{+}} = \sum_{\kappa_{1},\kappa_{2}} U_{\varepsilon_{-}\kappa_{1}} M(\kappa_{1},\kappa_{2}) v_{\kappa_{2}\varepsilon_{+}}^{\dagger}.$$
(7.11)

The polarization vector s_{\pm} in Eq.(7.1) describes e^{\pm} beams polarized with probability $(1+\rho_{\pm})/2$ in n_{\pm} direction and probability $(1-\rho_{\pm})/2$ in $-n_{\pm}$ direction. The polarization weighted squared matrix element is therefore

$$\sum_{\text{pol}} |\mathsf{M}|^{2} = \sum_{\epsilon_{\perp}, \epsilon_{\perp} = \pm} \frac{1 + \epsilon_{\perp} \rho_{\perp}}{2} \frac{1 + \epsilon_{\perp} \rho_{\perp}}{2} |\mathsf{M}_{\epsilon_{\perp} \epsilon_{\perp}}|^{2}$$

$$= \sum_{\kappa_{\perp} \kappa_{2} \kappa_{1}^{\dagger} \kappa_{2}^{\dagger}} \frac{\mathsf{M}(\kappa_{\perp}, \kappa_{2}) \ \mathsf{p}_{\kappa_{2} \kappa_{2}^{\dagger}}^{\dagger} \ \mathsf{M}^{\dagger}(\kappa_{1}^{\dagger}, \kappa_{2}^{\dagger}) \ \mathsf{p}_{\kappa_{1} \kappa_{1}}^{-} (7.12)$$

the polarization matrices P^{\pm} are given by

$$P_{\kappa_{1}\kappa_{1}}^{-} = \sum_{\epsilon_{-}=\pm}^{\Gamma} u_{\kappa_{1}\epsilon_{-}}^{\dagger} \frac{1+\epsilon_{-}\rho_{-}}{2} u_{\epsilon_{-}\kappa_{1}} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1+p_{-}^{L} & p_{-}^{T} & e^{i\alpha_{-}} \\ p_{-}^{T} & e^{-i\alpha_{-}} & 1-p_{-}^{L} \end{pmatrix}$$
(7.13a)
$$P_{\kappa_{2}\kappa_{2}}^{+} = \sum_{\epsilon_{+}=\pm}^{\Gamma} v_{\kappa_{2}\epsilon_{+}}^{\dagger} \frac{1+\epsilon_{+}\rho_{+}}{2} v_{\epsilon_{+}\kappa_{2}} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1+p_{+}^{L} & -p_{+}^{T} & e^{-i\alpha_{+}} \\ 1+p_{+}^{L} & -p_{+}^{T} & e^{-i\alpha_{+}} \\ -p_{+}^{T} & e^{i\alpha_{+}} & 1-p_{+}^{L} \end{pmatrix}$$
(7.13b)

In many applications, and in particular for LL production,

the relation

$$M(\kappa_{1},\kappa_{2}) = \delta_{\kappa_{1},-\kappa_{2}} M(\kappa_{1},-\kappa_{1})$$
(7.14)

holds, when the electron mass is neglected. In this case Eq.(7.12) can be simplified further to read

$$\sum_{\text{pol}} |M|^2 = \sum_{\kappa_1, \kappa_1} M^*(\kappa_1, -\kappa_1) P^{+-}_{\kappa_1, \kappa_1} M(\kappa_1, -\kappa_1)$$
(7.15)

with

$$P_{\kappa_{1}\kappa_{1}}^{+-} = \frac{1}{4} \begin{pmatrix} (1+P_{-}^{L}) (1-P_{+}^{L}) & -P_{-}^{T}P_{+}^{T}e^{i(\alpha_{-}+\alpha_{+})} \\ P_{-}^{T}P_{+}^{T}e^{-i(\alpha_{-}+\alpha_{+})} & (1-P_{-}^{L}) (1+P_{+}^{L}) \end{pmatrix}$$
(7.16)

which, together with the helicity amplitudes presented in section 4, allows to study LL production for arbitrary beam polarizations. For the special case $\hat{p}_{\pm} = (0,0,\mp 1)$ and $\hat{s}_{\pm} = (0,\pm 1,0)$ (where the colliding beams run along the z-axis and the transverse polarizations are along the y-axis), one obtains $\alpha_{\pm} = \pm \pi/2$ in Eq. (7.10) and accordingly the two phase factors of Eq. (7.16) are both unity.

8. Conclusions

We presented helicity amplitudes for heavy lepton pair production (including their three-body decays) in e^+e^- collisions with arbitrary vector/axial vector couplings and with arbitrary final fermion masses. The amplitudes are cast into a form which makes their direct numerical evaluation efficient. By studying four-jet, dijet plus single lepton, and dilepton signals, we exemplified the measurement of the couplings, of the associated neutrino mass, and of the heavy lepton mass itself near the - 33 -

threshold at TRISTAN, SLC/LEP-I, and LEP-II energies. We commented on the use of our amplitudes for studying heavy neutrino pair production signals and for studying polarized beam effects.

For completeness we presented in Section 3 a self-contained description of our method to evaluate arbitrary tree amplitudes with external fermions and vector bosons. The method requires minimal algebraic manipulation in the Weyl spinor basis which leads to a unique standard expression of the amplitude, whose form allows its efficient numerical evaluation. It gives a general prescription; no clever choice of polarization vectors, no trick for gamma matrix contractions nor special treatment for massive fermions are required. One of the key features of our method is that we express the wave function of a fermion or a vector boson in a given polarization state in terms of only its own momentum in an arbitrary Lorentz frame. Because of this the full polarization amplitudes are expressed in an arbitrary frame and the Lorentz invariance of the polarization summed squared amplitude provides us with a very nontrivial check of the overall calculation.

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Table 1: Coupling constants and spinors to be inserted in the generic amplitude (4.1) in case of LL production (M_1) , L decay (M_2) , and L decay (M_3) .

generic case	M ₁		M ₂	M ₃
$\psi_{a}(p_{a},\lambda_{a})$	v(k ₂ ,-K ₂)		u(p ₁ ,λ ₁)	v(q ₂ ,-σ ₂)
$\boldsymbol{\psi}_{\mathbf{b}}(\mathbf{p}_{\mathbf{b}},\boldsymbol{\lambda}_{\mathbf{b}})$	u(k ₁ , ₁)		u(q ₁ , σ ₁)	$v(p_4,-\lambda_4)$
$\psi_{c}(\mathbf{p}_{c}, \lambda_{c})$	$u(q_1,\sigma_1)$		u(p ₃ , λ ₃)	u(p ₅ ,λ ₅)
$\psi_{d}(p_{d},\lambda_{d})$	v(q ₂ ,-σ ₂)		$v(p_2,-\lambda_2)$	v(p ₆ ,-λ ₆)
$g_{+}^{Vab} = g_{+}^{Vcd}$	$\begin{cases} -1 \\ tan \theta_{W} \end{cases}$	Y Z	0	0
$g_{-}^{Vab} = g_{-}^{Vcd}$	$\left\{\begin{array}{c} -1\\ \frac{-\frac{1}{2}+\sin^2\theta_w}{\sin\theta_w\cos\theta_w}\end{array}\right.$	Y Z	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}\sin\theta_{W}}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}\sin\theta_{W}}$

Figure Captions

- Fig. 1 Feynman graph for production and decay of a heavy lepton pair.
- Fig. 2 Generic Feynman graph for vector exchange between fermions.
- Fig. 3 Missing p_m distribution for $e^+e^- \rightarrow L^+L^- \rightarrow 4$ jets + 2 neutrinos

at $E_b = 35$ GeV, $m_L = 0.9 E_b$. The effect of a non-zero neutrino mass is shown: $m_{v_L} = 0$ (dashed line), $m_{v_L} = 0.3 m_L$ (solid line), $m_{v_{\star}} = 0.5 m_L$ (dash-dotted line).

- Fig. 4 \not{p}_{T} distribution for $e^{+}e^{-} \rightarrow L^{+}L^{-} \rightarrow 2$ jets + μ^{\pm} + 3 neutrinos.
 - $E_{\rm h}$, m_L and m_v are chosen as in Fig. 3.
- Fig. 5 Missing energy distribution for the 4 jets + 2 neutrinos decay
 - mode of LL at $\rm E_{b}$ = 35 GeV, $\rm m_{L}$ = 0.9 $\rm E_{b}.$ The curves are for
 - $$\begin{split} \mathbf{m}_{v_{\mathrm{L}}} &= 0 \; (\text{dashed line}), \; \mathbf{m}_{v_{\mathrm{L}}} &= 0.1 \; \mathbf{m}_{\mathrm{L}} \; (\text{dotted line}), \; \mathbf{m}_{v_{\mathrm{L}}} &= 0.3 \; \mathbf{m}_{\mathrm{L}} \\ (\text{solid line}), \; \text{and} \; \mathbf{m}_{v_{\mathrm{r}}} &= 0.5 \; \mathbf{m}_{\mathrm{L}} \; (\text{dash-dotted line}). \end{split}$$
- Fig. 6 Same as Fig. 5 but for $E_{\rm b} = m_{\rm g}/2$.
- Fig. 7 Same as Fig. 5 but for $E_{\rm b}$ = 100 GeV.
- Fig. 8 $d\sigma/dE_{jj}$ for $e^+e^- \rightarrow L^+L^- \rightarrow \mu^{\pm} + 2$ jets + 3 $(\overline{\nu})$'s at $E_b = m_Z/2$,
 - $m_{\rm L}$ = 0.9 $E_{\rm b}$. Choice of neutrino masses is as in Fig. 5.
- Fig. 9 Dijet invariant mass distribution for $E_{b} = m_{Z}^{2}/2$, $m_{L} = 0.9 E_{b}$,
 - $m_{v} = (0, 0.1, 0.3, 0.5) m_{L}$
- Fig. 10 $e^{\pm}\mu^{\overline{T}}$ invariant mass distribution for the process $e^{\pm}e^{\overline{T}} \rightarrow L^{\pm}L^{-} \rightarrow$
 - $e^{\pm}\mu^{\mp}$ + 4 neutrinos at E_b = 35 GeV, m_L = 0.9 E_b . Neutrino

masses are chosen as in Fig. 5.

Fig. 11 Distribution of dijet opening angles for $E_b = m_Z^2$, $m_V_L = 0$ and for $m_L = 42$ GeV (solid line), 41 GeV (dashed line), 40 GeV (dotted line).

Fig. 12 Same as Fig. 11 but for $m_L = 30$ GeV (dashed line) and $m_L = 29$ GeV (solid line).

- Fig. 13 Polar angle distribution of the decay muon in the process $e^+e^- \rightarrow L^+L^- + \mu^{\pm} + 2$ jets + 3 neutrinos at $E_b = m_Z/2$ for $m_L = 0.9 E_b, m_{v_L} = 0$. The symbols indicate the error of the Monte Carlo integration. The solid line shows the $\cos \theta$ distribution of the parent heavy lepton.
- Fig. 14 Polar angle distribution of the dijet system in the process $e^+e^- \rightarrow L^+L^- \rightarrow \mu^{\pm} + 2$ jets + 3 neutrinos. Parameters and symbols as in Fig. 13.
- Fig. 15 Same as Fig. 14 but for $\eta \leq 0.2$ (see text).
- Fig. 16 Distribution of angles between muon and dijet system in
 - $e^+e^- \rightarrow L^+L^- \rightarrow \mu^{\pm} + 2$ jets + 3 neutrinos for V-A (solid line) and V + A (dashed line) coupling of $L\nu_L$ to W⁻. $E_b = m_Z/2$,

 $m_{\rm L}$ = 0.9 $E_{\rm b}$ and $m_{\rm v}$ = 0 were chosen.

Fig. 17 Muon energy distribution for the lepton-dijet signal. The

curves are given for an $m_L = 0.9 E_b (E_b = m_Z/2)$ heavy lepton with V + A (dashed line) and V - A (solid line) weak inter-

actions. Again $m_{v} = 0$.

Fig. 18 Dilepton mass distribution for $e^+e^- \rightarrow L^+L^- \rightarrow e^\pm\mu^\mp + 4$ neutrinos. Parameters and couplings as in Fig. 17.



















Fig. 13

Fig.14



