

Electric Dipole Moment of the W Boson and the Radiation Amplitude Zero

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The effect of an electric dipole moment (EDM) of the W boson is studied in the radiative decay $W^- \rightarrow \bar{u}d\gamma$. It is shown that the radiation amplitude zero which is present in this process provides a sensitive test of the possible compositeness of the W . The two possibilities, a large EDM ($\lambda \geq 1$) and a significant magnetic moment ($\kappa \neq 1$), can, in principle, be distinguished.

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It is well known¹ that, aside from radiative corrections, an elementary W boson will have its magnetic moment

$$\mu = geh/2M_W c \tag{1}$$

given by $\kappa=1$ or $g=\kappa+1=2$. A composite W , however, will very likely have² $g \neq 2$. The electric dipole moment (EDM) of the W ,

$$\lambda e/2M_W, \tag{2}$$

also acts as a test of compositeness of the W and could be a measure of CP violation in weak interactions. If the W is elementary, λ is expected to be extremely small. For instance in $SU(2) \times U(1)$, this quantity vanishes even at the one-loop order. Marciano and Querjeiro³ have shown that the EDM of the W in an effective (non-renormalizable) theory induces an EDM for the neutron through a loop effect. From the present limit on the EDM of the neutron they predict that

$$\lambda \leq 10^{-3}. \tag{3}$$

However, this result is model dependent. Other models may give larger values for λ . Here, however, we are proposing a model-independent way to measure λ experimentally. Since physics is an experimental science, λ should be measured, in spite of model predictions and theoretical prejudices. Therefore in what follows we will allow λ to be substantial. But, whether λ turns out to be large or small, it should be measured experimentally. In this paper we propose a method for doing this.

It has been shown that radiation amplitude zeros (RAZ)⁴ can be used as a sensitive test of the g value of the W (and, hence, its possible compositeness). In this Letter we wish to point out that RAZ can also be used as a sensitive test of the dipole moment of the W .

A few years ago it was discovered⁴ by Mikaelian, Samuel, and Sahdev that the angular distribution for

$d\bar{u} \rightarrow W^- \gamma$ ($u\bar{d} \rightarrow W^+ \gamma$) vanishes at a certain angle provided the magnetic moment of the W^\pm has the gauge-theory value $\kappa=1$. They proposed using this peculiar behavior in $p\bar{p}$ and pp collisions, $p\bar{p}$ or $pp \rightarrow W^- \gamma X$, where a dip persists, as a means of measuring the magnetic moment of the W . Subsequently it was shown⁵ that these RAZ are due to the complete destructive interference of the radiation patterns and occur whenever the process contains one real photon, only like-sign charges, and $g=2$ for all particles with spin. These zeros are quite remarkable—the lowest-order amplitude vanishes for each spin state and the po-

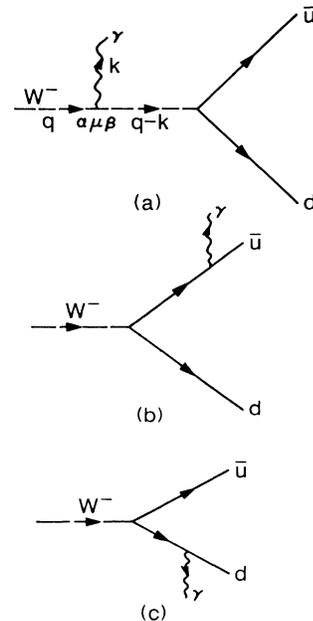


FIG. 1. Feynman diagrams contributing to the radiative decay $W^- \rightarrow d\bar{u}\gamma$.

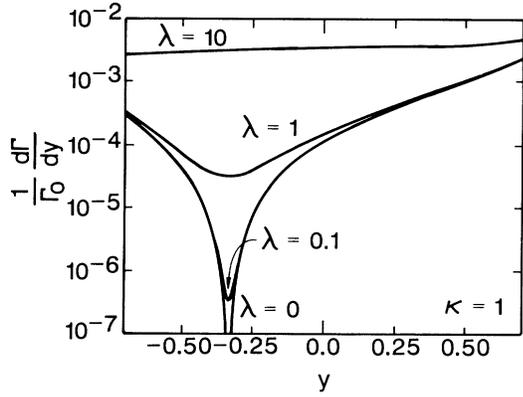


FIG. 2. $(1/\Gamma_0)d\Gamma/dy$ vs y for $\kappa=1$ and $0.2 \leq x \leq 1$ for various values of λ .

sition of the zero is independent of photon energy.

Such zeros occur in a variety of processes, including the radiative W -boson decays $W^- \rightarrow d\bar{u}\gamma$ and $W^- \rightarrow e\bar{\nu}\gamma$ which we write as $W^- \rightarrow q_i\bar{q}_j\gamma$. Grose and

Mikaelian⁶ have shown that these processes do have a RAZ if $\kappa=1$. Subsequently it was shown by Samuel and Tupper⁷ that, using the variables

$$x = \frac{2E_\gamma}{M_W}, \quad y = \frac{E_q - E_{\bar{q}}}{E_\gamma}, \quad (4)$$

the zero condition takes the simple form $(Q = Q_i + Q_j)$

$$y = \bar{Q} = \frac{Q_i - Q_j}{Q_i + Q_j}, \quad (5)$$

independent of x . It was shown that if $\kappa \neq 1$ the zero is spoiled. Here we will show that the zero is also spoiled if $\lambda \neq 0$.

The relevant diagrams are shown in Fig. 1. The coupling of the photon to the W , Fig. 1(a), due to $\lambda \neq 0$ is given by

$$A_{\alpha\beta\mu} = ie\lambda\epsilon_{\alpha\beta\mu\nu}k^\nu, \quad (6)$$

where k is the external photon momentum. In terms of these variables, the differential decay rate is given by

$$\frac{1}{\Gamma_0} \frac{d^2\Gamma}{dx dy} (W^- \rightarrow q\bar{q}\gamma) = \left(\frac{\alpha}{2\pi}\right) \left\{ (y - \bar{Q})^2 \frac{1-x+x^2(1+y^2)/4}{x(1-y^2)} + \frac{1-\kappa}{4} (y - \bar{Q})xy + \left(\frac{1-\kappa}{4}\right)^2 x \left[1-x + \frac{(1-y^2)(1+x)}{2} \right] + \frac{\lambda^2}{64} [2(1-x) + (1-y^2)(1+x)] \right\}. \quad (7)$$

This reduces to our previous result when $\lambda=0$. The interference terms between λ and the previous amplitude vanish since the EDM amplitude is CP violating and the rest of the amplitude is CP conserving. Γ_0 is given by

$$\Gamma_0 = \frac{\alpha M_W}{4 \sin^2\theta_W}. \quad (8)$$

In Figs. 2-4 we plot

$$\frac{1}{\Gamma_0} \int_{0.2}^1 dx \frac{d^2\Gamma}{dx dy} = \frac{1}{\Gamma_0} \frac{d\Gamma}{dy} \quad (9)$$

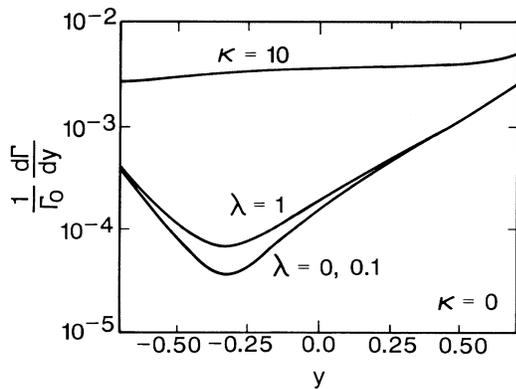


FIG. 3. $(1/\Gamma_0)d\Gamma/dy$ vs y for $\kappa=0$ and $0.2 \leq x \leq 1$ for various values of λ .

vs y . It can be seen (Fig. 2) that for $\kappa=1$ low values of λ , $\lambda < 10^{-3}$, have no effect, as the strong dip characteristic of the standard model persists at $(Q_i = -\frac{1}{3}, Q_j = -\frac{2}{3})$

$$y = \bar{Q} = -\frac{1}{3}. \quad (10)$$

However, as soon as one gets to higher values of λ compatible with a composite W the dip is spoiled. Hence, this provides a rather sensitive measure of λ .

We have also studied the combined effect of both an

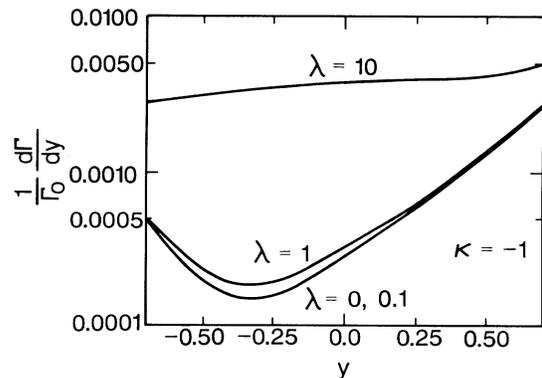


FIG. 4. $(1/\Gamma_0)d\Gamma/dy$ vs y for $\kappa=-1$ and $0.2 \leq x \leq 1$ for various values of λ .

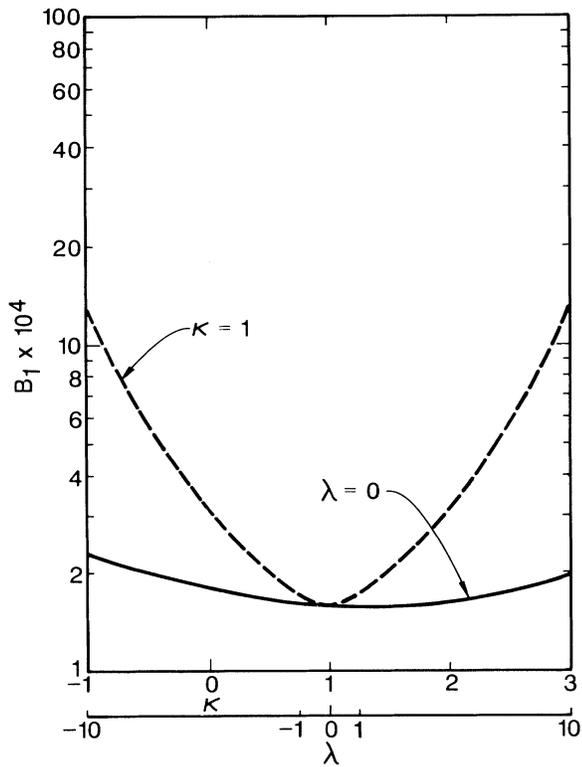


FIG. 5. Branching ratio B_1 vs κ for $\lambda=0$ and B_1 vs λ for $\kappa=1$.

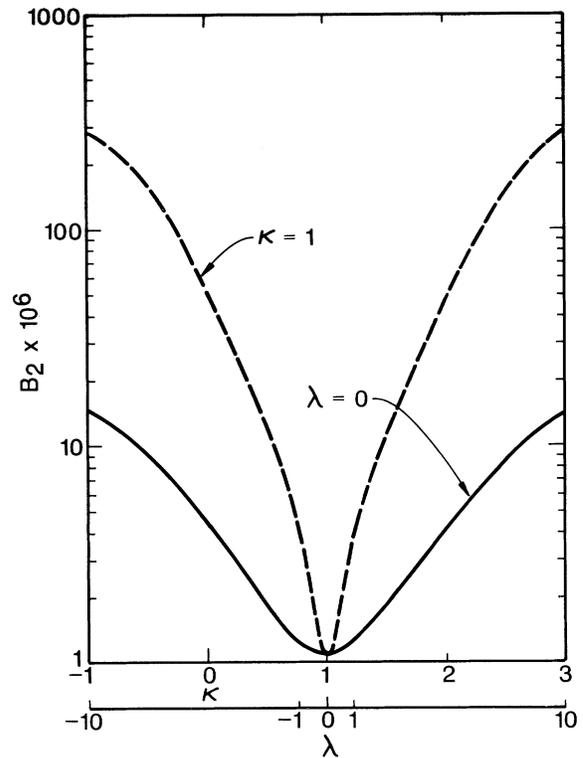


FIG. 6. Branching ratio B_2 vs κ for $\lambda=0$ and B_2 vs λ for $\kappa=1$.

anomalous magnetic and electric dipole moment for the W , by taking the two typical values $\kappa=0$ and $\kappa=-1$ while varying λ (Figs. 3 and 4). We conclude that unless λ is extremely large (or order 1 to 10) the modification to the standard-model distribution is more sensitive to an anomalous nongauge value for the magnetic moment of the W than to a nonvanishing EDM. This is easily explained by the fact that the rate is quadratic in λ but linear in $\Delta\kappa = \kappa - 1$.

Finally, we considered the case where only either $\Delta\kappa$ or λ were nonvanishing, i.e., either an $SU(2)$ gauge value for the magnetic moment but with an anomalous EDM or vice versa, to see whether it is possible to distinguish between these two situations.

In Figs. 5-7 we compare our results for $\kappa=1$, $\lambda \neq 0$ and $\lambda=0$, $\kappa \neq 1$. In each case the branching ratios $B(W^- \rightarrow d\bar{u}\gamma)$ are plotted. Figure 5 corresponds to B_1 ($x > 0.2$ and $-0.7 < y < 0.7$). Figure 6 shows the case B_2 ($x > 0.2$ and $-0.5 \leq y < -0.17$) and Fig. 7 corresponds to B_3 ($x > 0.2$ and $-0.35 < y < -0.317$). It can be seen from these figures that the two cases $\lambda=0$, $\kappa \neq 1$ and $\kappa=1$, $\lambda \neq 0$ are different and can, in principle, be distinguished in such an experiment. Such an experiment would be, however, very difficult and would require more than the $10^4 W^+W^-$ pairs expected at the CERN e^+e^- collider LEP II. However, the Tevatron at Fermi-

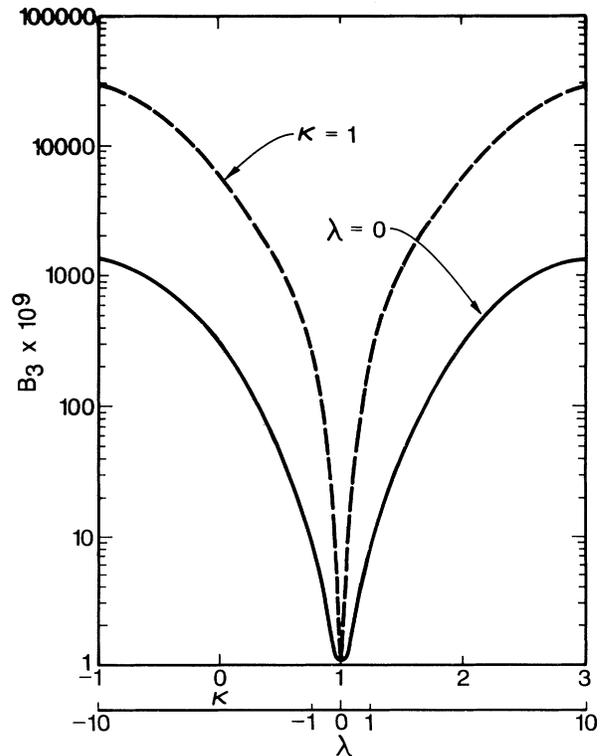


FIG. 7. Branching ratio B_3 vs κ for $\lambda=0$ and B_3 vs λ for $\kappa=1$.

lab has already obtained 5000 W bosons and expects a great many more.⁸

This experiment is already under way by the Collider Detector at Fermilab (CDF) Collaboration⁹ at the Tevatron (Fermilab). Some radiative W decays have been observed. This should allow limits to be placed on κ . When the next run takes place in about a year or so they will have as many as 100000 W events. One can see from Figs. 5-7 that this will be a sufficient number to do this experiment and obtain a definite value for λ and κ . This will test the standard model (SM) to see if $\lambda = 0$ and $\kappa = 1$ (as required by the SM).

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