

Polarizations

We define the polarization vectors for a W^+ , in its CM, where $p_V = (M; 0, 0, 0)$, as:

$$\epsilon(\pm) = \epsilon_{R/L} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(0; \pm 1, i, 0) \quad \epsilon(0) = \frac{1}{M}(0; 0, 0, M) \quad (1)$$

which guarantees:

$$\epsilon_i \cdot \epsilon_j^* = -\delta_{ij}, \quad p_V \cdot \epsilon_i = 0 \quad (2)$$

Boosting along \hat{z} leaves $\epsilon(\pm)$ unchanged and gives:

$$\epsilon(0, p_z) = 1/M(p_z; 0, 0, E), \quad p_V = (E; 0, 0, p_z) \quad (3)$$

We then get the general expression rotating the vectors by an angle θ around \hat{y} and then by an angle ϕ around \hat{z} , obtaining

$$p_V = (E; p \sin \theta \cos \phi, p \sin \theta \sin \phi, p \cos \theta) \quad (4)$$

$$\epsilon(\pm, \vec{p}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(0; \mp \cos \theta \cos \phi + i \sin \phi, \mp \cos \theta \sin \phi - i \cos \phi, \pm \sin \theta) \quad (5)$$

$$\epsilon(0, \vec{p}) = \frac{1}{M}(p; E \sin \theta \cos \phi, E \sin \theta \sin \phi, E \cos \theta) \quad (6)$$

This coincides with the polarizations by Hagiwara and Zeppenfeld, who however, do not specify the charge of the vector.

For a W^- , $\epsilon(+) \leftrightarrow \epsilon(-)$ ($\epsilon_R \leftrightarrow \epsilon_L$), that is $\epsilon \leftrightarrow \epsilon^*$.