Extreme Light Scientific and Socio-Economic Outlook



Contribution ID: 6 Type: **not specified**

Electron-positron pairs beaming in the Breit-Wheeler process

Wednesday 30 November 2016 16:20 (20 minutes)

Direct production of electron-position pairs in photon collisions is one of the basic processes in the Universe. The electron-positron production $\gamma + \gamma$ to $e^+ + e^-$ (linear Breit-Wheeler process) is the lowest threshold process in photon-photon interaction, controlling the energy release in Gamma Ray Bursts, Active Galactic Nuclei, black holes and other explosive phenomena [1]. It is also responsible for the TeV cutoff in the photon energy spectrum of extra-galactic sources. The linear Breit-Wheeler process has never been clearly observed in laboratory with important probability of matter creation [2].

Thanks to the recent progress in high-power laser sources it will be possible to create compact sources of intense γ -ray beams (few MeV) and to use them in new experiments allowing to observe and study the BW process in laboratory [3]. In this presentation, based on the kinematics of two photon collisions, we study the e^+-e^- beam properties. In particular, we demonstrate a possibility for beaming of e^+-e^- pairs in one particular direction, which may strongly facilitate the observation of the BW process [4]. We show that the pair beaming effect depends on the angle between photon beams and the energy of each beam. Moreover, the numerical simulations with the photon collision code TriLens [5] are in good agreement with the analytical model. Simulation results obtained with TriLens using optimized gamma beams to prepare experiments on future ultra-high intensities lasers like Apollon will be presented. With higher photon beam energies (>100 MeV) the beaming effect can be observed also for muon-pairs creation.

We acknowledge the financial support from the French National Research Agency (ANR) in the frame of "The Investments for the Future" Programme IdEx Bordeaux - LAPHIA (ANR-10-IDEX-03-02) - Project TULIMA. This work is partly supported by the Aquitaine Regional Council (project ARIEL).

- [1] Ruffini, R. et al. Physics Reports, 487, 1-140 (2010).
- [2] Bamber C. et al. Phys. Rev. D, 60, 092004 (1999).
- [3] Ribeyre X. et al. Phys. Rev. E, 93 013201 (2016).
- [4] Ribeyre X. et al., PPCF 59, 014024 (2017).
- [5] Jansen O. et al., Submitted to JCP, arXiv:1608.01125 (2016).

Author: RIBEYRE, Xavier (Université de Bordeaux)

Co-author: D'HUMIÈRES, Emmanuel (Université de Bordeaux)

Presenter: RIBEYRE, Xavier (Université de Bordeaux)

Session Classification: Basic Science

Track Classification: Basic Science