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THE "MODEL INDEPENDENT" PART

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RADIATIVE CORRECTIONS FOR SEMILEPTONIC DECAYS  
OF HYPERONS: THE "MODEL INDEPENDENT" PART

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## ABSTRACT

The "model independent" part of the order  $\alpha$  radiative correction due to virtual photon exchanges and inner bremsstrahlung is studied for semileptonic decays of hyperons. Numerical results of high accuracy are given for the relative correction to the branching ratio, the electron energy spectrum and the  $(E_e, E_f)$  Dalitz distribution in case of four different decays:  $\Sigma^- \rightarrow ne\bar{\nu}$ ,  $\Sigma^- \rightarrow \Lambda e\bar{\nu}$ ,  $\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda e\bar{\nu}$  and  $\Lambda \rightarrow pe\bar{\nu}$ .

## АННОТАЦИЯ

Изучена "независимая от модели" часть радиационных поправок в порядке  $\alpha$ , которая соответствует обмену виртуальных фотонов и тормозного излучения. Для распадов  $\Sigma^- \rightarrow ne\bar{\nu}$ ,  $\Sigma^- \rightarrow \Lambda e\bar{\nu}$ ,  $\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda e\bar{\nu}$  и  $\Lambda \rightarrow pe\bar{\nu}$  получены точные численные результаты для поправок к "branching ratio", спектру энергии электронов и диаграмме Далица  $(E_e, E_f)$ .

## KIVONAT

A virtuális foton csere és fékezési sugárzás következtében fellépő  $\alpha$  rendű sugárzási korrekciók "modell független" részét tanulmányozzuk hyperonok szemileptonos bomlásaiban. Nagy pontosságu numerikus eredményeket adunk a  $\Sigma^- \rightarrow ne\bar{\nu}$ ,  $\Sigma^- \rightarrow \Lambda e\bar{\nu}$ ,  $\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda e\bar{\nu}$  és  $\Lambda \rightarrow pe\bar{\nu}$  bomlások esetén az elágazási arány, az elektron energia spektrum és az  $(E_e, E_f)$  Dalitz eloszlás relativ korrekcióira.



## 1. INTRODUCTION

In the last few years several high statistics experiments were carried out to study semileptonic decays of hyperons. The most interesting question about these decays is whether the experimental results fit into the framework of the Cabibbo model [1]. At the level of quarks, and after the extension made by Kobayashi and Maskawa [2] this model has become an important ingredient of the standard Glashow-Salam-Weinberg theory of electroweak interactions [3].

The improving precision of the measurements made it necessary to apply radiative corrections in the analysis of the experimental data. Several calculations exist in the literature for the corrections to the branching ratio and the electron energy spectrum [4,5,6], all of them being descendant of the classic radiative correction calculations for neutron beta-decay [7,8,9]. We carried out a comprehensive calculation of the radiative corrections for the decays  $\Sigma^- \rightarrow n e \bar{\nu}$ ,  $\Sigma^- \rightarrow \Lambda e \bar{\nu}$ ,  $\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda e \bar{\nu}$  and  $\Lambda \rightarrow p e \bar{\nu}$  with the aim of obtaining coherent sets of results for the branching ratio, the electron energy spectrum and the Dalitz distribution. In course of this work we were in close contact with the WA2 experimental group at CERN. This group measured the above decay modes, and the main goal of our work was to supply the experimental analysis with the necessary radiative corrections. Our results concerning branching ratio and electron energy spectrum are simply more accurate, in a sense to be explained later, than already existing results. The radiative corrections on the (electron energy, final baryon energy) Dalitz plot, which we are going to present here are so far unique in the literature. The obtained large variation of the latter correction is a warning, that, even if the integrated 'theoretical' correction to the branching ratio is small, the experimentally observed radiative corrections can be relevant and quite different in various experiments, because of the acceptance properties of the experimental apparatus.

We mention, that analytical formulas have already been published to give the radiative corrections for the decay distribution on the  $(E_e, \cos\theta_{e\bar{\nu}})$  plane [10,11],  $E_e$  and  $\theta_{e\bar{\nu}}$  being the electron energy and the angle between the 3-momenta of the electron and the antineutrino, respectively. However, this result is of very limited use from the point of view of analyzing experiments, since  $\theta_{e\bar{\nu}}$  is never measured [12].



In Sect. II. we start with the presentation of the theoretical program for the calculation of radiative corrections to semileptonic decays. In Sect. III. we describe the "model independent" part of the virtual photon corrections. In Sect. IV. we discuss some characteristic properties of two-dimensional decay distributions in the presence of inner bremsstrahlung. Our results are presented in Sect. V. together with a detailed discussion of the inputs and tests of our numerical calculation. In an Appendix we shortly discuss the effect of some numerical approximations.

## II. FORMULATION OF THE PROBLEM

The calculation of radiative corrections to semileptonic decays is an old and complicated theoretical problem. The weak interaction, responsible for these decays, is mixed up with the electromagnetic and strong interactions. Infrared and ultraviolet divergences spoil the calculation, which must be overcome in a reliable fashion.

The problem of infinities, at least to order  $\alpha$ , the fine structure constant, is now solved. The solution is simple in case of the infrared divergence, as the method familiar from QED works: one must add the decay probability of the bremsstrahlung process  $B \rightarrow b e \bar{\nu}$  to that of  $B \rightarrow b e \bar{\nu}$ . The infrared divergent parts for both processes are the same, as if the coupling between the (real, or virtual) photon and the charged baryon are pointlike [7].

The problem of the cancellation of the ultraviolet infinities is much more difficult, the method of solution is rather complicated [13]. The result, however, can be expressed in a simple way. In a very general framework, which includes

- 1./ the standard  $SU(2) \times U(1)$  unified gauge theory of the weak and electromagnetic interactions;
  - 2./ generally accepted properties for the strong interactions, such as  $SU(3)$  color gauge group, asymptotic freedom, current algebra relations;
  - 3./ an appropriate choice of counterterms [14],
- the  $B \rightarrow b e \bar{\nu}$  decay amplitude to order  $\alpha$  can be written as follows:

$$\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}_0 \left[ 1 - \frac{3\alpha}{8\pi} (1 + 2\bar{Q}) \log \cos^2 \theta_W \right] + \mathcal{M}_\gamma, \quad (\text{II.1})$$

where  $\theta_W$  is the Weinberg angle,  $\bar{Q}$  is the average electric charge of the relevant weak isodoublet. (For quarks in hyperon decays  $\bar{Q} = \frac{1}{6}$ , for leptons in muon decay  $\bar{Q} = -\frac{1}{2}$ ). The notation  $\mathcal{M}_0$  is used for the decay amplitude in lowest order,

$$\mathcal{M}_0 \approx \sqrt{2} G_F [\bar{u}_2 \gamma^\mu (1 + \gamma^5) v_1] \langle f | J_W^\mu(0) | i \rangle. \quad (\text{II.2})$$

The labels  $i$ ,  $f$ ,  $1$  and  $2$  in (II.2) refer to the decaying and final baryon,



antineutrino and electron, respectively. The coupling constant  $G_F$  is equal with that observed in muon decay,  $G_F \equiv G_\mu$ .

(We use the conventions of [15] for the Dirac gamma matrices,  $\gamma^\mu$ ,  $\gamma^5$ , and for the metric in the scalar product of four-vectors. We normalize the Dirac spinors as  $\bar{u}u = -\bar{v}v = 2m$ ). The matrix element  $\mathcal{M}$  in (II.1) is ultra-violet finite. The order  $\alpha$  part of the expression in the square bracket in (II.1) is due to diagrams, which are infinite before renormalization. We do not go here into the details of how to eliminate the infinities, neither into the derivation of their finite remnant. The interested reader can study these problems in the excellent works of Sirlin [13,15]. In a separate paper we also tried to give a simple presentation.

The term  $\mathcal{M}_\gamma$  in (II.1) collects the contribution of three different types of diagrams:

$$\mathcal{M}_\gamma = \mathcal{M}_\gamma^{(1)} + \mathcal{M}_\gamma^{(2)} + \mathcal{M}_\gamma^{(3)}. \quad (\text{II.3})$$

They are familiar from the literature, nevertheless, we write down the corresponding expressions in order to give explicitly the basis of our calculation.

The first term,  $\mathcal{M}_\gamma^{(1)}$ , in (II.3) is a contribution, which comes from the wave function renormalization of the final state electron due to the emission and reabsorption of a virtual photon:

$$\mathcal{M}_\gamma^{(1)} = \mathcal{M}_0 \delta Z_{(e)}, \quad (\text{II.4})$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \delta Z_{(e)} = & \frac{i\alpha}{8\pi^3} \int dk D_{\mu\nu}^<(k) \frac{(2p_{2\mu} - k_\mu)(2p_{2\nu} - k_\nu)}{[(k-p_2)^2 + m_e^2]^2} + \\ & + \frac{\alpha}{32\pi^3} \frac{1}{m_e^2} \int dk D_{\mu\nu}^<(k) \frac{\bar{u}_2[\gamma_\mu, k] \not{p}_2 \gamma_\nu u_2}{[(k-p_2)^2 + m_e^2]^2}. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{II.5})$$

Virtual photon can be emitted and reabsorbed also by the hadronic weak vertex. This is the origin of  $\mathcal{M}_\gamma^{(2)}$ ,

$$\mathcal{M}_\gamma^{(2)} = -i\sqrt{2} G_F [\bar{u}_2 \gamma^\mu (1+\gamma^5) v_1] T^{\mu<}, \quad (\text{II.6})$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} T^{\mu<} = & \lim_{q \rightarrow p_i - p_f} \left\{ \frac{\alpha}{8\pi^3} \int dk D_{\nu\rho}^<(k) \left[ \int dy e^{-i\bar{q}y} \int dx e^{-ikx} \right. \right. \\ & \times \left. \left. \langle f | T \{ J_W^\mu(y) J_Y^\nu(x) J_Y^\rho(0) \} | i \rangle - B^{\mu\nu\rho} \right] \right\}. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{II.7})$$



We use the notation  $J_Y^\mu$  for the hadronic electromagnetic current.  $B^{\mu\nu\rho}$  is a counter term to assure, that the pole of the uncorrected and the  $O(\alpha)$ -corrected propagator for the  $i$  (or  $f$ ) particle be at the same mass value,  $m_i$  (or  $m_f$ ).

The last term,  $\mathcal{M}_Y^{(3)}$ , in (II.3) corresponds to the exchange of a photon between the weak vertex and the electron:

$$\mathcal{M}_Y^{(3)} = \sqrt{2}G_F \frac{\alpha}{4\pi} \int dk D_{\mu\nu}(k) T^{\mu\rho}(k) \frac{M_W^2}{M_W^2 + k^2} \times \quad (II.8)$$

$$\times \bar{u}_2 \frac{2p_{2\nu} - k_\nu - \frac{1}{2}[\gamma^\nu, K]}{(k-p_2)^2 + m_e^2} \gamma^\rho (1+\gamma^5) v_1.$$

The tensor  $T^{\mu\rho}(k)$  is defined as

$$T^{\mu\rho}(k) = \int dx e^{-ikx} \langle f | T \{ J_Y^\mu(x) J_W^\rho(0) \} | i \rangle. \quad (II.9)$$

The symbol  $M_W$  stands for the mass of the charged weak vector boson, and  $D_{\mu\nu}$  is the photon propagator in Feynman gauge:

$$D_{\mu\nu}(k) = \frac{\delta_{\mu\nu}}{k^2 + \lambda^2}.$$

A small photon mass,  $\lambda$ , is needed to regularize the infrared divergence of (II.5), (II.7) and (II.9). Finally,  $D_{\mu\nu}^<$  denotes

$$D_{\mu\nu}^<(k) = \frac{M_W^2}{k^2 + M_W^2} D_{\mu\nu}(k).$$

When writing down the expressions (II.5-9), we neglected the dependence of the W-boson propagator on  $p_i - p_f$ . This means the neglect of very small terms proportional to  $G_F \alpha \frac{m_i^2}{M_W^2}$  in the matrix element. As a result, we could write down

the well-known formulas for the virtual photonic radiative corrections in the traditional current x current theory of weak interactions [7,8]. Even an ultraviolet regularizing factor,  $M_W^2/(M_W^2 + k^2)$  needed in this approach, is present in (II.5), (II.7) and (II.8). This is quite natural in case of (II.8), since, in fact, our starting point is the Glashow-Weinberg-Salam theory of weak interaction. The situation is slightly different in case of (II.5) and (II.7). In Sirlin's approach, which we follow here, these two types of diagrams are treated using the separation

$$D_{\mu\nu} = D_{\mu\nu}^< + D_{\mu\nu}^> ,$$



where

$$D_{\mu\nu}^>(k) = \frac{\delta_{\mu\nu}}{k^2 + M_W^2}.$$

That part, which contains  $D_{\mu\nu}^>$ , is ultraviolet divergent, and is treated together with the other UV divergent diagrams arising in the  $SU(2) \otimes U(1)$  framework. Their finite remnant is included in the first term of (II.1). Since the factor  $(M_W^2 + k^2)$  is not really a tool to make the order  $\alpha$  radiative correction UV finite, the "cutoff mass"  $M_W$  may survive even in the final results, and it was recently proved by Sirlin to do indeed so [17]. Some recent and old radiative correction calculations, which start with the current x current theory, solve the problem of UV infinities by using momentum transfer dependent weak and electromagnetic form factors, the dependence being extrapolated from the low  $q^2$  region [6,8]. These calculations cannot account for the mentioned (logarithmic) dependence on  $M_W$ , and probably underestimate the large  $k^2$  part of the loop integrals.

Finally, the infrared problem requires us to deal with inner bremsstrahlung. The matrix element for the  $B \rightarrow be\bar{\nu}$  process can be written as

$$M_\gamma = M_\gamma^{(h)} + M_\gamma^{(l)}, \quad (II.10)$$

$$M_\gamma^{(h)} = \sqrt{2} G_F e [\bar{u}_2 \gamma^\mu (1 + \gamma^5) v_1] T^{\rho\mu}(k) \varepsilon_{\rho}^*(k, s), \quad (II.11)$$

$$M_\gamma^{(l)} = \sqrt{2} G_F e \{ \bar{u}_2 \not{\varepsilon}^*(k, s) [i(\not{p}_2 - \not{k} + m_e)]^{-1} \times \gamma^\mu (1 + \gamma^5) v_1 \} \langle i | J_W^\mu(0) | f \rangle. \quad (II.12)$$

The purpose of this paper is to study the decay distribution

$$\Gamma(E_e, E_f) = \Gamma_0(E_e, E_f) + \Gamma_\alpha(E_e, E_f), \quad (II.13)$$

where  $E_e$  and  $E_f$  are the energy of the electron and the final baryon, respectively, in the rest system of the decaying particle. The integral of  $\Gamma(E_e, E_f)$  gives the order  $\alpha$  corrected branching ratio

$$\rho(B \rightarrow be\bar{\nu}) = \frac{1}{\Gamma} \int \Gamma(E_e, E_f) dE_e dE_f,$$

where  $\Gamma$  is the total decay width of the particle B.

The bremsstrahlung part of  $\Gamma_\alpha(E_e, E_f)$  is obtained after integration over the whole kinematically allowed phase space for photons. Therefore our results are suitable for the purposes of experiments, which use no discrimination against hard photons at all.



### III. THE "MODEL INDEPENDENT" CORRECTION

The first term,  $\Gamma_O(E_e, E_f)$ , in (II.13) is the lowest order distribution function for the process  $B \rightarrow be\bar{\nu}$ . It has been studied in detail by several authors, our basic reference is [18].

Following tradition we write the weak current matrix element in (II.2) as follows:

$$\langle f | J_W^\mu(0) | i \rangle = i(2\pi)^4 \frac{1}{2} \bar{u}_f H^\mu u_i, \quad (\text{III.1})$$

where

$$H^\mu = \gamma^\mu [f_1(q^2) - \gamma^5 g_1(q^2)] - \frac{1}{m_i} q^\nu \sigma^{\mu\nu} f_2(q^2), \quad (\text{III.2})$$

$$q = p_i - p_f.$$

In its most general form  $H^\mu$  contains three further form factors,  $f_3$ ,  $g_2$  and  $g_3$ , which we neglect in this paper.

(The sign convention in (III.2) for the axial vector form factor,  $g_1$ , is the same, as in ref. [18].)

For the purposes of experimental analysis  $\Gamma_\alpha(E_e, E_f)$  should be given in a form similar to  $\Gamma_O(E_e, E_f)$ , that is, as bilinear combination of the unknown parameters  $f_1$ ,  $f_2$ ,  $g_1$  with known functions of  $E_e$  and  $E_f$  as coefficients. At present, this task is too difficult to solve, since our knowledge about strong interactions is not sufficient to evaluate the matrix elements of the product of two or three hadronic currents,  $T^{\mu\rho}(k)$  and  $T^{\mu\nu\rho}(k)$ .

In the bremsstrahlung case it seems reasonable to approximate  $T^{\mu\rho}(k)$  as if the photon is coupled minimally to a pointlike baryon, since the photon energy cannot be large in the final state:

$$T^{\mu\rho}(k) \approx \frac{i}{2}(2\pi)^4 \bar{u}_f H^\rho [i(\not{p}_i - \not{k}) + m_i]^{-1} \gamma^\mu u_i, \quad (\text{III.3a})$$

for the  $\Sigma^- \rightarrow ne\bar{\nu}$  type of decays, and

$$T^{\mu\rho}(k) \approx -\frac{i}{2}(2\pi)^4 \bar{u}_f \gamma^\mu [i(\not{p}_f + \not{k}) + m_f]^{-1} H^\rho u_i \quad (\text{III.3b})$$

for the  $n \rightarrow pe\bar{\nu}$  type.

The situation is much more serious in case of the virtual photon corrections, since in (II.7) and in (II.8)  $k$  is an unbounded variable of integration. We shall follow the strategy of writing  $\mathcal{M}_\gamma$  as sum of a so called "model independent" and a "model dependent" term. The idea of such a separation was originally invented by Sirlin in the case of neutron beta decay [7]. Since the mathematical expression giving the "model independent part" is quite general, it served later as a starting point of calculations also in case of other semileptonic decays [5,11]. In this paper we use its "model



independent part" for  $\mathcal{M}_\gamma$ , and call, following tradition, the resulting  $\Gamma_\alpha(E_e, E_f)$  the model independent correction. By definition, this  $\Gamma_\alpha(E_e, E_f)$  is a bilinear combination of the form factors  $f_1, f_2, g_1$  and the coefficients (functions of  $E_e, E_f$ ) are calculable. We want, however, to stress, that the radiative corrections are complete only, when also the "model dependent" part of  $\mathcal{M}_\gamma$  is included. Sirlin [7], and later Garcia [11], suggested, that, neglecting terms proportional to  $G_F \frac{E_e}{m_i}$  in  $\mathcal{M}_\gamma$ , the only effect of the model dependent part is, that it changes  $f_1, g_1$  to some "effective form factors"  $f'_1, g'_1$  without changing the coefficient functions, already known from the calculation of the model independent part. Maybe, this is true, but the notion of effective form factors is useless, when the ultimate purpose is to compare the experimental results with Cabibbo's predictions, which refer to the true form factors. We find it particularly disturbing, that the model independent-model dependent separation is non-unique, therefore the effective form factors are ill-defined. We postpone the study of the problem of the "model dependent" part to a subsequent paper [19].

By the "model independent" part of  $\mathcal{M}_\gamma$  we mean the expressions given in [7] for (II.7) and (II.9).  $\delta Z_{(e)}$  in (II.5) is well-known from QED. In Feynman gauge,

$$\delta Z_{(e)} = -\frac{\alpha}{2\pi} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{M_W}{m_e} - \log \frac{m_e}{\lambda} + \frac{9}{8} \right]. \quad (\text{III.4})$$

Substituting the "model independent" part for  $T^{\mu<}$  in (II.6)  $\mathcal{M}_\gamma^{(2)}$  takes the form

$$\mathcal{M}_\gamma^{(2)} = \mathcal{M}_0 \delta Z, \quad (\text{III.5})$$

where

$$\delta Z = \frac{i\alpha}{8\pi^3} \int dk D_{\mu\nu}^{<}(k) \frac{(2p_{ch}^\mu - k^\mu)(2p_{ch}^\nu - k^\nu)}{[(k-p_{ch})^2 + m_{ch}^2]^2} \quad (\text{III.6})$$

This is part of the expression valid in QED for a pointlike, charged particle with  $-p_{ch}^2 = m_{ch}^2$  (c.f. (II.5)). Standard calculation gives

$$\delta Z = -\frac{\alpha}{2\pi} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{M_W}{m_{ch}} - \log \frac{m_{ch}}{\lambda} + \frac{3}{4} \right]. \quad (\text{III.7})$$

The model independent part of  $\mathcal{M}_\gamma^{(3)}$  is obtained by writing in (II.8)

$$T^{\mu\rho}(k) = \frac{1}{2}(2\pi)^4 \frac{2p_{ch}^\mu - k^\mu}{(k-p_{ch})^2 + m_{ch}^2} \bar{u}_f \gamma^\rho u_i. \quad (\text{III.8})$$

Then the contribution of  $\mathcal{M}_\gamma^{(3)}$  is as follows:



$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_\gamma^{(3)} \approx & \frac{\alpha}{2\pi} \mathcal{M}^{\text{Coulomb}} + \frac{\alpha}{2\pi} (-d_0 + d_1) \mathcal{M}_0 + \\ & + \frac{\alpha}{2\pi} i(2\pi)^4 \sqrt{2} G_F \left[ \bar{u}_2 \frac{\not{p}_{ch}}{m_{ch}} \gamma^\mu (1+\gamma^5) v_1 \right] \left[ \bar{u}_f H^\mu u_i \right] d_{11}. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{III.9})$$

In (III.9) the last term is included only for sake of tradition. Let alone the very low end of the electron energy spectrum it is negligibly small, the function  $d_{11}$  being

$$d_{11} = \frac{m_e}{2p'_e} \log \frac{p'_{e+}}{m_e}$$

where

$$p'_e = \sqrt{E'^2_e - m_e^2}, \quad p'_{e+} = E'_e + p'_e, \quad \text{and } E'_e \text{ is the energy of}$$

the electron in the rest frame of the charged baryon. The first term on the right hand side of (III.9) is the so-called Coulomb term.  $\mathcal{M}^{\text{Coulomb}} = 0$ , if the final baryon is neutral, and

$$\mathcal{M}^{\text{Coulomb}} = \pi^2 \frac{E'_e}{p'_e} \mathcal{M}_0, \quad (\text{III.10})$$

if the final baryon is positively charged. Finally, the functions  $d_0$  and  $d_1$ , neglecting terms proportional to  $m_e/m_{ch}$  and  $(E'_e/m_{ch})^2$ , can be written as

$$d_1 = \log \frac{M_W}{m_e} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{E'_e}{p'_e} \log \frac{p'_{e+}}{m_e}, \quad (\text{III.11})$$

$$\begin{aligned} d_0 = & \frac{2E'_e}{p'_e} \log \frac{p'_{e+}}{m_e} \log \frac{m_e}{\lambda} + \frac{E'_e}{p'_e} \log^2 \frac{p'_{e+}}{m_e} + \\ & + \frac{E'_e}{p'_e} \text{Sp} \left( \frac{2p'_e}{p'_{e+}} \right) + \frac{E'_e}{m_{ch}} \left( \log \frac{p'^2_{e+}}{m_{ch}^2} - 2 \right). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{III.12})$$

The mass  $m_{ch}$  is equal with  $m_i$  or  $-m_f$ , depending on whether the initial or final baryon is charged, respectively. For the definition of the Spence function in (III.12) we use the convention

$$\text{Sp}(x) = - \int_0^1 dt \frac{1}{t} \log(1-xt).$$



In summary, the "model independent" part of  $\mathcal{M}_\gamma$  is a multiple of  $\mathcal{M}_0$ , (neglecting now the term with  $d_{11}$  in (III.9)),

$$\mathcal{M}_\gamma \approx \frac{\alpha}{2\pi} g_1(E'_e) \mathcal{M}_0. \quad (\text{III.13})$$

The order  $\frac{\alpha}{\pi} \frac{E'_e}{m_{\text{ch}}}$  terms in the function  $g_1(E'_e)$  are of very little significance from the numerical point of view. The situation is different, when the  $E'_e/m_{\text{ch}}$  terms coming from  $\mathcal{M}_0$  are considered. In hyperon decays they are not small enough to suppress large and remarkably varying terms of order  $\alpha$  coming from  $g_1(E'_e)$ .

(Such a term is, e.g.,  $\frac{E'_e}{p'_e} \log^2 \frac{p'_{e+}}{m_e}$ .)

We mention, that in case of the neutral hyperon decays,  $(n, \Lambda \rightarrow p e \bar{\nu})$ , an imaginary part should be added to the function  $g_1(E'_e)$ . It gives however no contribution to any physical observable, if spin polarizations are not detected. Therefore we omitted it in this paper.

#### IV. TWO-DIMENSIONAL DISTRIBUTIONS IN THE PRESENCE OF BREMSSTRAHLUNG

It is well-known, that in case of the  $B \rightarrow b e \bar{\nu}$  process 4-momentum conservation is very restrictive. Assuming, that polarizations are not detected and the decaying particle is at rest,  $E_i = m_i$ , only two independent variables are available for the description of the final states. Several choices are possible for these two variables, the alternatives being easily related to each other. As a consequence, the quantities measured in an experiment can be freely transformed to other ones in order to obtain the wanted distribution. If radiative corrections are applied in the analysis such a possibility does not exist any more. This is a consequence of the presence of 4 particles,  $b e \bar{\nu} \gamma$ , in the bremsstrahlung final states and of the integration over the three momentum of the photon.

In order to illustrate, what we mean, we compare some properties of two distributions without and with radiative corrections.

a/ Distributions in terms of  $(E_e, E_f)$

If the  $B \rightarrow b e \bar{\nu}$  decay process alone is analyzed, the kinematically allowed region for these variables is

$$m_e \leq E_e \leq E_{\text{emax}}, \quad (\text{IV.1})$$

$$E_{\text{fmin}}(E_e) \leq E_f \leq E_{\text{fmax}}(E_e), \quad (\text{IV.2})$$

where

$$E_{\text{emax}} = \frac{m_i^2 - m_f^2 + m_e^2}{2m_i}, \quad (\text{IV.3})$$



$$E_{f\min}^{\max} = \frac{1}{2} \left[ (m_1 - E_e + p_e) + \frac{m_f^2}{m_1 - E_e + p_e} \right]. \quad (\text{IV.4})$$

The variables  $E_e, E_f$  determine a decay event up to trivial rotations. The angle  $\theta_{ef}$  between the 3-vectors  $p_e$  and  $p_f$  is uniquely fixed by the relation  $m_1 - E_e - E_f = |p_e + p_f|$ :

$$\cos \theta_{ef} = \frac{m_1^2 + m_f^2 + m_e^2 - E_f(m_1 - E_e) - E_e(m_1 - E_f)}{2p_e p_f}, \quad (\text{IV.5})$$

where

$$p_f = \sqrt{E_f^2 - m_f^2}, \quad p_e = \sqrt{E_e^2 - m_e^2}.$$

If radiative corrections are taken into account the experimental analysis must cover an  $(E_e, E_f)$  region, which is larger, than the one defined by (IV.1,2). Due to inner bremsstrahlung extra events appear with

$$m_f \leq E_f < E_{f\min}(E_e), \quad (\text{IV.6})$$

if

$$m_e \leq E_e < E'_{\max}, \quad (\text{IV.7})$$

where

$$E'_{\max} = \frac{1}{2} \left[ (m_1 - m_f) + \frac{m_e^2}{m_1 - m_f} \right]. \quad (\text{IV.8})$$

For the set of events with given  $E_e, E_f$  the relation (IV.5) is not true any more. This point can be conveniently discussed in terms of the variable

$$\hat{q} = |p_e + p_f| = \left[ p_e^2 + p_f^2 + 2p_e p_f \cos \theta_{ef} \right]^{1/2}. \quad (\text{IV.9})$$

Instead of the single value

$$\hat{q} = m_1 - E_e - E_f \quad (\text{IV.10})$$

it is an interval, which is allowed for  $\hat{q}$ , and, therefore, for  $\cos \theta_{ef}$  at each  $(E_e, E_f)$  points. Namely,

$$|p_e - p_f| \leq \hat{q} \leq m_1 - E_e - E_f, \quad (\text{IV.11})$$

if  $(E_e, E_f)$  is in (IV.1,2), and

$$|p_e - p_f| \leq \hat{q} \leq p_e + p_f, \quad (\text{IV.12})$$



if  $(E_e, E_f)$  is in (IV.6,7). In the latter case

$$p_e + p_f < m_i - E_e - E_f. \quad (\text{IV.13})$$

The contribution of inner bremsstrahlung to  $\Gamma_\alpha(E_e, E_f)$  is obtained by integration over  $\hat{q}$ . Another variable of integration is the energy,  $E_\gamma$ , of the bremsstrahlung photon. The range of the possible photon energies is a function of  $\hat{q}$ :

$$\frac{1}{2}(m_i - E_e - E_f - \hat{q}) \leq E_\gamma \leq \frac{1}{2}(m_i - E_e - E_f + \hat{q}). \quad (\text{IV.14})$$

Interesting properties of  $\Gamma_\alpha(E_e, E_f)$  follow from (IV.11-14). When  $(E_e, E_f)$  is in (IV.6,7) the "correction"  $\Gamma_\alpha(E_e, E_f)$  comes from bremsstrahlung alone. It is finite, since  $\min(E_\gamma) > 0$ . But, when the curve  $E_{f\min}(E_e)$  is approached,  $\min(E_\gamma) \rightarrow 0$ , and  $\Gamma_\alpha(E_e, E_f)$  grows logarithmically:

$$\Gamma_\alpha(E_e, E_f) \sim -\frac{\alpha}{\pi} \log \left[ 1 - \frac{m_i - E_e - E_f}{p_e + p_f} \right] \rightarrow +\infty. \quad (\text{IV.15})$$

On the curve  $E_{f\min}(E_e)$  (and, for  $E_e < E'_{\text{emax}}$ )  $\Gamma_\alpha(E_e, E_f)$  is finite, because here the infrared divergent bremsstrahlung and virtual photon corrections sum up to give a finite result.

Another interesting case is, when  $E_e$  and  $E_f$  are on the curve  $E_{f\max}(E_e)$ , or on  $E_{f\min}(E_e)$  (and, in the latter case,  $E_e > E'_{\text{emax}}$ ). In both cases  $m_i - E_e - E_f = |p_e - p_f|$ , and the two-dimensional region of integration over  $(E_\gamma, \hat{q})$  degenerates to a line,

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{q} &= |p_e - p_f|, \\ 0 \leq E_\gamma &\leq |p_e - p_f|. \end{aligned}$$

It is straightforward to verify, that, as a result of this degeneracy,

$$\Gamma_\alpha(E_e, E_f) \sim \frac{\alpha}{\pi} \log \left[ 1 - \frac{|p_e - p_f|}{m_i - E_e - E_f} \right] \rightarrow -\infty, \quad (\text{IV.16})$$

when the above-mentioned boundary curves are approached. As the bremsstrahlung contribution to  $\Gamma_\alpha(E_e, E_f)$  becomes finite in this limit, the infrared divergence of the virtual photon part reappears.

b./ Distributions in terms of  $(E_e, \cos\theta_{ef})$ .

Whether radiative corrections are considered or not, possible values of  $\cos\theta_{ef}$  are

$$-1 \leq \cos\theta_{ef} \leq 1, \quad (\text{IV.17})$$



if

$$m_e \leq E_e \leq E'_{\text{emax}}, \text{ and}$$

$$\cos\theta_{ef} \leq 0, \quad (\text{IV.18})$$

$$0 \leq \sin\theta_{ef} \leq \frac{m_i}{m_f} \frac{E_{\text{emax}} - E_e}{p_e},$$

if  $E'_{\text{emax}} < E_e \leq E_{\text{emax}}$ .

For those events, which have the same  $E_e$  and  $\cos\theta_{ef}$  the possible energies for the final baryon are different depending on whether it comes from a  $B \rightarrow be\bar{\nu}$ , or  $B \rightarrow be\bar{\nu}\gamma$  event, but which are not distinguished from each other. Let us denote by  $E_f^{(+)}$  the following quantities

$$E_f^{(+)} = \frac{1}{a} \left\{ (m_i - E_e) \left[ m_i (E_{\text{emax}} - E_e) + m_f^2 \right] \pm p_e \cos\theta_{ef} \left[ m_i^2 (E_{\text{emax}} - E_e)^2 - m_f^2 p_e^2 \sin^2\theta_{ef} \right]^{1/2} \right\}, \quad (\text{IV.19})$$

where  $a = (m_i - E_e)^2 - p_e^2 \cos^2\theta_{ef}$ .

In case of  $B \rightarrow be\bar{\nu}$  events  $E_f$  is uniquely determined by  $E_e$  and  $\cos\theta_{ef}$ , if  $E_e < E'_{\text{emax}}$ :

$$E_f = E_f^{(-)}. \quad (\text{IV.20})$$

The relation is two-to-one, if  $E_e \geq E'_{\text{emax}}$ :

$$E_f = E_f^{(+)}. \quad (\text{IV.21})$$

For  $B \rightarrow be\bar{\nu}\gamma$  events these relations change to

$$m_f \leq E_f \leq E_f^{(-)}, \quad (\text{IV.22})$$

when  $E_e < E'_{\text{emax}}$ , and to

$$E_f^{(+)} \leq E_f \leq E_f^{(-)}, \quad (\text{IV.23})$$

when  $E_e \geq E'_{\text{emax}}$ . In order to evaluate the bremsstrahlung contribution to  $\Gamma_\alpha(E_e, \cos\theta_{ef})$ , one must integrate over  $E_f$  and  $E_\gamma$ . The allowed range for  $E_\gamma$  is given by (IV.14) and (IV.9). Unbounded behaviour of  $\Gamma_\alpha(E_e, \cos\theta_{ef})$  emerges only, when  $E_e > E'_{\text{emax}}$ , and

$$\sin\theta_{ef} \rightarrow \frac{m_i}{m_f} \frac{E_{\text{emax}} - E_e}{p_e}.$$

Along this boundary curve  $E_f^{(+)} = E_f^{(-)}$ , and

$$\Gamma_\alpha(E_e, \cos\theta_{ef}) \sim \frac{1}{\pi} \log \left[ 1 - \frac{E_f^{(+)}}{E_f^{(-)}} \right] \rightarrow -\infty. \quad (\text{IV.24})$$



This is another example of the recovery of the infrared divergence coming from the virtual photon corrections.

Further illustrative examples could be brought to stress, that kinematical relations, which are commonly known for  $B \rightarrow be\bar{\nu}$  decay, might be incorrect to use in experimental analysis, if radiative corrections are relevant. It is difficult to tell, that, nonetheless, in a given context the use of  $B \rightarrow be\bar{\nu}$  kinematics is an acceptable approximation, or not. Intuitively one expects, that this approximation can be used, if in most of the  $be\bar{\nu}\gamma$  final states the photon and the antineutrino move parallel to each other. This is, however, not the case, because the smallness of the electron mass results in a sharp maximum of the bremsstrahlung matrix element, when the photon and the electron have parallel momenta. Theoretical calculation of radiative corrections must be designed very carefully in order not to confuse "theoretical" and experimentally measured quantities. Best example is  $\cos\theta_{e\bar{\nu}}$ ,  $\theta_{e\bar{\nu}}$  being the angle between the momenta of the electron and the antineutrino. In experiments  $\theta_{e\bar{\nu}}$  is an indirectly obtained quantity, since the antineutrino is not seen. A radiative correction calculation must use the "experimental" definition of  $\theta_{e\bar{\nu}}$ , if it is destined for the purpose of analyzing experiments. The radiative correction to the  $(E_e, \cos\theta_{e\bar{\nu}})$  distribution given in refs. [10,11] is only of theoretical value, since in this paper  $\theta_{e\bar{\nu}}$  means the actual angle between the momenta of the electron and the antineutrino. For similar reason any result, known to us, in the literature concerning the radiative correction to the asymmetry parameter  $\alpha_{e\bar{\nu}}$  is inadequate to apply to the experimentally measured  $\alpha_{e\bar{\nu}}$  [12].

## V. RESULTS

Using the "model independent" expressions of section III. for the virtual photon corrections and the "electromagnetically pointlike" baryon approximation, (III. 3.a,b), for the description of inner bremsstrahlung we have calculated radiative corrections to the branching ratio, the electron energy spectrum and the  $(E_e, E_f)$  Dalitz distribution for four different semileptonic baryon decays,  $\Sigma^- \rightarrow ne\bar{\nu}$ ,  $\Sigma^- \rightarrow \Lambda e\bar{\nu}$ ,  $\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda e\bar{\nu}$ ,  $\Lambda \rightarrow pe\bar{\nu}$ , assuming, that the decaying particle is at rest. In this calculation we have needed the weak form factors as input. We have used the zero momentum transfer values of  $f_1$ ,  $f_2$  and  $g_1$  obtained by the WA2 group at CERN from a first fitting of the experimental data without applying radiative corrections. We have checked, that our results do not change under the influence of a few percent change (which is allowed by the experimental errors) in the value of these parameters. We have put equal with zero the form factors  $f_3$ ,  $g_2$  and  $g_3$ . Exact SU(3) and CVC justifies this in case of  $f_3$  and  $g_2$ . The term with  $g_3$  in the matrix element of the weak current is very much suppressed in the lowest order decay matrix element, therefore it is usually not included in experimental analysis. The suppression is resolved in the order  $\alpha$  corrections, but, unless one expects unreasonably large value for  $g_3$ , its contribution cannot be more, than



0.1 - 0.2 %. We have also ignored the momentum transfer dependence of the form factors, its effect being of the order of  $\frac{\alpha}{\pi} \frac{(m_i - m_f)^2}{m_i^2}$ . In fact, to

calculate the relative corrections given in this paper one needs only the form factors divided by  $f_1$  (by the cosine of the Cabibbo angle in case of  $\Sigma^- \rightarrow \Lambda e \bar{\nu}$ ). These input numbers are summarized in Table 1, together with the corresponding ones for  $n \rightarrow p e \bar{\nu}$  decay, as they have been used in the Cabibbo analysis of the WA2 group [19].

We have obtained our results from computer calculation. We have used Reduce algebraic programs to calculate traces of complicated products of Dirac gamma matrices. To evaluate the 3-, 4- and 5-dimensional integrals required by the bremsstrahlung part of the correction to the Dalitz distribution, electron energy spectrum and branching ratio, respectively, we have used the DIVON general purpose routine for numerical integration. We have had to subtract the infrared divergent part of the square of the bremsstrahlung matrix element (III.10-12):

$$|M'_{\gamma}|^2_{IR} = \frac{\alpha}{2\pi^2} \left( \frac{p_{1,f}^\mu}{k \cdot p_{1,f}} + \frac{p_2^\mu}{k \cdot p_2} \right)^2 |M_0|^2. \quad (V.1)$$

For the 3-dimensional integration of (V.1) over the photon momenta we have used standard methods described, e.g., in [20]. The integration of the remaining finite part is, in principle, straightforward. Convergence problems arise, however, due to the electron propagator in (III.12). In order to make the numerical integration convergent, we have had to smoothen the large variations of the integrand by means of appropriately chosen variables of integration. For the Spence function we have used power series expansion.

To check our programs and to study the convergence properties of the DIVON routine in the case of our specific problem we have made the following tests.

- 1./ We have computed the "model independent" radiative correction to the  $n \rightarrow p e \bar{\nu}$  decay rate. This number, 1.5 %, is well-known from the literature [7]. Our result by computer is 1.54 %.
- 2./ We have computed the "model independent" radiative correction to the electron energy spectrum in  $n \rightarrow p e \bar{\nu}$  decay. In Table 2. we present our results together with the corresponding values of the famous  $g(E_e, E_{\text{emax}})$  function of Sirlin [7].
- 3./ We have computed the total order  $\alpha$  photonic radiative correction to  $\mu^- \rightarrow e \nu_\mu \bar{\nu}$  decay rate. The classic result for it is [21,22,8]

$$- \frac{\alpha}{2\pi} \left( \pi^2 - \frac{25}{4} \right) = - 0.42 \, \%.$$

This is an example, in which  $\frac{m_i - m_f}{m_i}$  is not negligible. (We have



assumed  $m_f \equiv m_{\nu_\mu} = 0$ .) For the purposes of this calculation we have had to keep the complete "pointlike" expressions for  $T^{\mu^<}$  in (II.6) and for  $T^{\mu^p}$  in (II.8). In our computer program there has been a formal dependence on  $M_W$ . It is well-known, that in V-A theory and to order  $\alpha$  the radiative correction to  $\mu$ -decay is independent of the cutoff mass. We have put 80 GeV for  $M_W$ , but our results have not changed, when this number had been changed to 800 and to 80 000. We have obtained - 0.45 % for the correction to  $\mu \rightarrow e \nu_\mu \bar{\nu}$  decay rate.

- 4./ We have calculated the correction to all of the branching ratios in two different ways. First, we have taken the complete order  $\alpha$  expression for the radiative correction, and computed its 5-dimensional integral. In the second case we have decomposed the weak current matrix element (III.1) in terms of the form factors  $F_1, F_2, F_3$  and  $G_1$  instead of the ones  $f_1, f_2$  and  $g_1$  (see ref. 18). Then we have separated and integrated the kinematical coefficients for  $F_1^2, F_1 F_2, F_2^2$ , etc., and have obtained the correction to the branching ratio as a combination of these terms. This procedure is extremely sensitive to numerical inaccuracies, because in most cases large terms with opposite sign sum up to give small result. In this way we have been able to excellently reproduce the results obtained by the first method. (In an early report we studied the Dalitz distribution for  $\Sigma^- \rightarrow n e \bar{\nu}$  decay following the second method. In that calculation we used the complete "pointlike" expression for the  $\Sigma^-$ -photon coupling [23].)

On the basis of these investigations we can say, that the percentage values we give here for the relative corrections (RC %) have a numerical accuracy  $\sim 0.1$  % ((RC  $\pm 0.1$ ) %) for all branching ratios, and for the electron energy spectrum and the Dalitz distribution in case of the  $\Sigma^- \rightarrow n e \bar{\nu}$  and  $\Lambda \rightarrow p e \bar{\nu}$  decays. In some points of the energy spectrum and the Dalitz distribution for  $\Sigma^- \rightarrow \Lambda e \bar{\nu}$  and  $\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda e \bar{\nu}$  decays this accuracy is worse, (RC  $\pm 0.5$ ) %. The reason for this is that we saved computer time.

Of course, we do not think, that our present theoretical knowledge allows to produce the complete radiative correction, i.e., including the "model dependent" part, with the above accuracy. However, we wanted to avoid numerical uncertainties in the calculation of the "model independent" part, which are possibly comparable with the theoretical uncertainties. We have been very careful about terms proportional to  $\frac{\alpha}{\pi} \frac{E_e}{m_i}$  or  $\frac{\alpha}{\pi} \frac{m_i - m_f}{m_i}$ , particularly, because large factors, such as  $\log \frac{E_e}{m_e}$  and  $\log^2 \frac{E_e}{m_e}$ , can make them significant.

We present our results in Tables 2,3,4 and 5. Tables 2 and 3 contain the relative "model independent" correction for the branching ratios and the electron energy spectra. For comparison, we give our numbers together with



the ones, which can be obtained by using Sirlin's well-known results derived originally for  $n \rightarrow p e \bar{\nu}$  decay neglecting consistently all the terms with  $\frac{E_e}{m_i}$  or  $\frac{m_i - m_f}{m_i}$ . With the exception of  $\Lambda \rightarrow p e \bar{\nu}$  decay there is no difference between

the two sets of numbers in case of the branching ratios.

(Table 2 does not contain the Coulomb part of the correction, which is + 3.5% for  $n \rightarrow p e \bar{\nu}$ , and + 2.3 % for  $\Lambda \rightarrow p e \bar{\nu}$ .) The situation is different for the electron energy spectra. In comparison with the limiting curve  $g(E_e, E_{\text{emax}})$  of Sirlin we have obtained steeper function for the relative corrections. The difference is best visible in the lower third of the curve.

Table 4 contains the relative correction to the 2-dimensional distributions in some points of the  $(E_e, E_f)$  Dalitz plot. (The points were specifically chosen to meet the needs of the WA2 experiment. Table 5 gives the dimensionless coordinate values  $x = E_e/E_{\text{emax}}$  and  $\xi = E_f/m_i$  for the various decays.) As it was discussed in Sect. IV., part of the  $(E_e, E_f)$  distribution is due to bremsstrahlung events alone. Here the "relative correction" would, of course, be infinite. Therefore, in Table 6. we separately present the contribution of these events to the electron energy spectrum.

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#### APPENDIX

In this paper we gave an account of our calculation of the order  $\alpha$  radiative corrections to the  $(E_e, E_f)$  Dalitz distribution, the electron energy spectrum and the branching ratio for semileptonic hyperon decays. The numbers given in the tables refer to the "model independent part" of the corrections. Since there exist now several calculations of the "model independent" corrections to the electron energy spectrum and the branching ratio, we find it necessary to clearly state the differences.

We have carried out our calculations without approximations in the lowest order expression for the decay matrix element [18], and keeping all the terms proportional to  $\frac{E_e}{m_i}, \frac{m_i - m_f}{m_i}$  in the order  $\alpha$  virtual and real photonic expressions. The tables give our results for the corrections in percentage of the precisely calculated lowest order quantity.



In the tables we marked another set of numbers by the name of Sirlin. These numbers come from calculations, which were originally designed to describe  $n \rightarrow p e \bar{\nu}$  decay, and, in which all the  $\frac{E_e}{m_i}, \frac{m_i - m_f}{m_i}$  terms are neglected. That is, the formulas for the corrected electron energy spectrum and the branching ratio are

$$\Gamma_{B \rightarrow be \bar{\nu}}(E_e) = \frac{G_F^2}{2\pi^3} (f_1^2 + 3g_1^2) E_e^2 (E_{\text{emax}} - E_e)^2 \left[ 1 + \frac{\alpha}{2\pi} g(E_e, E_{\text{emax}}) \right], \quad (\text{A1})$$

and

$$\Gamma_{B \rightarrow be \bar{\nu}} = \frac{G_F^2}{60\pi^3} E_{\text{emax}}^5 (f_1^2 + 3g_1^2) \left[ 1 + \frac{\alpha}{2\pi} \bar{g}(E_{\text{emax}}) \right], \quad (\text{A2})$$

where

$$\bar{g}(E_{\text{emax}}) = \frac{3}{2} \log \frac{m_{\text{ch}}^2}{4E_{\text{emax}}^2} + \frac{81}{10} - \frac{4}{3} \pi^2. \quad (\text{A3})$$

In hyperon decays  $m_i - m_f$  is not small enough, therefore the approximate lowest order quantities in (A1), (A2) are not suitable for the purposes of present experiments.

Garcia has attempted to cure this problem in ref. 11., and he has given a general expression for the  $(E_e, \cos \theta_{e\bar{\nu}})$  distributions which is valid also when polarizations are detected. This result is not suitable for application in experimental analysis, because  $\cos \theta_{e\bar{\nu}}$  is not a good variable [12]. One can, however, integrate Garcia's result over  $\cos \theta_{e\bar{\nu}}$  and, e.g., perform summation over the polarization to obtain for the electron energy spectrum

$$\Gamma_{B \rightarrow be \bar{\nu}}(E_e) = \Gamma_{OB \rightarrow be \bar{\nu}}(E_e) \left[ 1 + \frac{\alpha}{2\pi} g(E_e, E_{\text{emax}}) \right], \quad (\text{A4})$$

where  $\Gamma_{OB \rightarrow be \bar{\nu}}(E_e)$  is the lowest order function for the electron energy spectrum without approximations [18]. (In the notations of [11]:  $g(E_e, E_{\text{emax}}) = 2(\phi_1 + \theta_1)$ .)

The relative correction is the same, as in (A1). An unaesthetic point about (A4) is, that it follows from a result in [11], which is obtained after ad hoc manipulations with  $\frac{\alpha}{\pi} \frac{E_e}{m_i}, \frac{\alpha}{\pi} \frac{m_i - m_f}{m_i}$  terms in the inner bremsstrahlung contributions. The purpose of these manipulations is to obtain a result, which contains the precise lowest order quantities. The problem is, that large logarithmic factors multiply  $\frac{\alpha}{\pi} \frac{E_e}{m_i}$  and  $\frac{\alpha}{\pi} \frac{m_i - m_f}{m_i}$  and, therefore, they are not really small in hyperon decays. An illustration of this is the correction to the branching ratio. Garcia gives

$$\Gamma_{B \rightarrow be \bar{\nu}} = \Gamma_{OB \rightarrow be \bar{\nu}} \left[ 1 + \frac{\alpha}{2\pi} \bar{g}(E_{\text{emax}}) \right]. \quad (\text{A5})$$



(Better to say, the numerical values of  $\frac{\alpha}{2\pi} \bar{g}(E_{\text{emax}})$  are given in [11] for several hyperon decays.) The relative correction is again the same, as in Sirlin's case, but in (A5)  $\Gamma_{\text{OB} \rightarrow \text{be}\bar{\nu}}$  is the lowest order decay rate without approximation. In contrast with (A5) the actual relative correction, which follows from (A4) is

$$\frac{\alpha}{2\pi} \frac{1}{\Gamma_{\text{OB} \rightarrow \text{be}\bar{\nu}}} \int \Gamma_{\text{OB} \rightarrow \text{be}\bar{\nu}}(E_e) g(E_e, E_{\text{emax}}) dE_e$$

This quantity is given in our Table 2 under the name of Garcia. (In ref.19. Table 4. has just the opposite heading.) These numbers are definitely different from the relative correction in (A5). In case of  $\Lambda \rightarrow \text{pe}\bar{\nu}$  decay the difference, 0.7 %, is not even small in comparison with the error, 2%, of the presently best experiment [24].

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Table 1.

The form factor values used in the present calculation.

	$f_1$	$f_2$	$g_1$
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow ne\bar{\nu}$	1	- 1.139	0.310
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow \Lambda e\bar{\nu}$	0	1.213	- 0.588
$\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda e\bar{\nu}$	1	- 0.065	- 0.249
$\Lambda \rightarrow pe\bar{\nu}$	1	0.974	- 0.699
$n \rightarrow pe\bar{\nu}$	1	1.974	- 1.239

Table 2.

Relative correction to the semileptonic decay rates in %:

	This calculation	Sirlin	Garcia <sup>+</sup>
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow ne\bar{\nu}$	- 0.41	- 0.25	- 0.81
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow \Lambda e\bar{\nu}$	0.14	0.12	- 0.23
$\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda e\bar{\nu}$	- 0.20	- 0.15	- 0.50
$\Lambda \rightarrow pe\bar{\nu}^{*-}$	- 0.57	- 0.22	- 0.89
$n \rightarrow pe\bar{\nu}^{**}$	1.53	1.50	1.50

\* + 2.29 % Coulomb correction

\*\* + 3.5 % - " -

+ See Appendix



Table 3.

Relative correction to the electron energy spectrum in %.

At each  $x$  the upper number gives the value of Sirlin's  $\frac{\alpha}{2\pi}g(E_e, E_{\text{emax}})$ ,

the lower one is our result. (Coulomb correction is not included).

X	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow n e \bar{\nu}$	14.9	5.84	2.71	0.76	- 0.80	- 2.23	- 3.70	- 5.41	- 7.83
	18.2	7.2	3.5	1.3	- 0.4	- 2.0	- 3.8	- 5.6	- 8.6
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow \Lambda e \bar{\nu}$	11.4	4.90	2.54	1.01	- 0.24	- 1.40	- 2.61	- 4.01	- 6.01
	13.4	5.5	3.0	1.3	- 0.2	- 1.3	- 2.6	- 4.1	- 6.2
$\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda e \bar{\nu}$	14.3	5.70	2.71	0.84	- 0.66	- 2.05	- 3.47	- 5.12	- 7.47
	16.2	6.5	3.2	1.2	- 0.4	- 1.8	- 3.4	- 5.0	- 7.6
$\Lambda \rightarrow p e \bar{\nu}$	13.7	5.45	2.57	0.75	- 0.71	- 2.05	- 3.44	- 5.04	- 7.34
	18.0	7.0	3.4	1.3	- 0.4	- 2.0	- 3.7	- 5.7	- 8.5
$n \rightarrow p e \bar{\nu}$				1.88	1.77	1.60	1.39	1.13	0.74
				2.0	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.1	0.7



Table 4.

Radiative correction to the Dalitz distribution in %.

		$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$x_4$	$x_5$	$x_6$
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow n e \bar{\nu}$	$\xi_1$	5.4	1.7	- 0.7	- 2.9	- 5.7	- 9.0
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow e \bar{\nu}$		3.9	1.6	0.4	- 1.9	- 5.0	- 6.5
$\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda e \bar{\nu}$		1.4	2.3	- 1.0	- 3.4	- 5.2	- 8.2
$\Lambda \rightarrow p e \bar{\nu}$		4.4	1.1	- 1.2	- 3.2	- 5.9	- 8.7
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow n e \bar{\nu}$	$\xi_2$	10.9	3.4	0.3	- 2.2	- 5.6	-11.6
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow \Lambda e \bar{\nu}$		5.4	2.8	0.8	- 1.0	- 4.1	-
$\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda e \bar{\nu}$		6.1	3.7	0.5	- 2.0	- 5.4	-15.0
$\Lambda \rightarrow p e \bar{\nu}$		9.5	3.0	0.2	- 2.1	- 5.2	-13.0
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow n e \bar{\nu}$	$\xi_3$		4.5	0.5	- 2.3	- 6.6	
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow \Lambda e \bar{\nu}$			2.9	0.9	- 1.0	- 3.6	
$\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda e \bar{\nu}$			4.6	0.6	- 2.1	- 6.5	
$\Lambda \rightarrow p e \bar{\nu}$			4.1	0.5	- 2.0	- 6.1	
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow n e \bar{\nu}$	$\xi_4$		6.8	0.7	- 2.5	- 9.8	
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow \Lambda e \bar{\nu}$			2.9	0.8	- 1.4	- 5.5	
$\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda e \bar{\nu}$			6.7	0.6	- 2.5	-12.0	
$\Lambda \rightarrow p e \bar{\nu}$			5.5	0.8	- 2.1	-19.8	
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow n e \bar{\nu}$	$\xi_5$			1.0	- 3.0		
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow \Lambda e \bar{\nu}$				0.4	- 3.9		
$\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda e \bar{\nu}$				0.4	- 5.0		
$\Lambda \rightarrow p e \bar{\nu}$				0.8	- 2.4		

In case of  $\Lambda \rightarrow p e \bar{\nu}$  uniformly 2.3 % must be added for the Coulomb correction.



Table 5.

The  $(x, \xi)$  coordinate values belonging to the points, in which the radiative correction to the Dalitz distribution is calculated. ( $x = E_e/E_{\text{emax}}, \xi = E_f/m_i$ )

$x_i = 0.1, 0.25, 0.45, 0.65, 0.85, 0.95$ .

	$\xi_1$	$\xi_2$	$\xi_3$	$\xi_4$	$\xi_5$
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow ne\bar{\nu}$	0.7925	0.7965	0.8005	0.8045	0.8075
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow \Lambda e\bar{\nu}$	0.9320	0.9325	0.9330	0.9335	0.9340
$\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda e\bar{\nu}$	0.8460	0.8500	0.8520	0.8540	0.8560
$\Lambda^- \rightarrow pe\bar{\nu}$	0.8440	0.8465	0.8490	0.8515	0.8535

Table 6.

Radiative correction in % to the electron energy spectrum, caused by bremsstrahlung events, which fall outside the 3-body Dalitz plot (see Sect. IV.).

x	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow ne\bar{\nu}$	7.8	1.5	0.5	0.1	0.02
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow \Lambda e\bar{\nu}$	8.4	2.4	0.9	0.2	0.01
$\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda e\bar{\nu}$	6.5	1.2	0.3	0.1	0.01
$\Lambda^- \rightarrow pe\bar{\nu}$	9.5	2.3	0.8	0.25	0.02





















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