

energy. The upper curves a' and a correspond to the calculations by Bhabha⁵ as corrected by Block, King, and Wada⁴ for the cases of no screening (a') and complete screening (a). The two lower curves b' and b (b' — no screening, b — complete screening) were calculated by us from the results of Murota, Ueda, and Tanaka,⁶ whose calculation is more exact than Bhabha's.

As can be seen from the figure, the totality of the experimental results on the determination of λ for an energy interval of primary electrons 1 — 100 BeV is in satisfactory agreement with the theory of Murota et al. A certain disagreement between experiment and the predictions of the above mentioned theory for electrons in the energy interval 0.1 — 1 BeV is apparently due to an illegitimate extrapolation into the indicated energy region of the correction calculated by Koshiba and Kaplon⁷ for the number of false tridents, which should lead to a substantial underestimate of the true number of tridents.

Thus the experimental results on the determination of the cross section for direct electron-positron pair production by electrons should apparently

be considered as being in agreement with the predictions of quantum electrodynamics up to 100 BeV energies for the primary electrons.

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*These events were found by A. A. Varfolomeev's group.

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CYCLOTRON ABSORPTION OF ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVES IN A PLASMA

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THE propagation of electromagnetic waves in a magnetoactive plasma at frequencies ω , close to $m\omega_H^e$ ($m = 1, 2, \dots$; where ω_H^e is the gyromagnetic frequency of the electron and ω_H^i is the gyromagnetic frequency of the ion) is characterized by strong absorption; this absorption is due to the thermal motion of the electrons and ions (cyclotron absorption)¹⁻⁵ and is of interest in connection with problems of microwave diagnostics and radio-frequency heating of plasmas.

The damping of waves characterized by $\omega \approx m\omega_H^e$, $m = 2, 3, \dots$, is especially pronounced in the case of a double resonance, i.e., when $m\omega_H \approx \omega_+$, where ω_+ is the frequency given by the condition

$$A = 1 - u_e - v_e + u_e v_e \cos^2 \theta = 0,$$

$$u_e = (\omega_H^e / \omega)^2, \quad v_e = (\Omega_e / \omega)^2,$$

Ω_e is the electron Langmuir frequency, and θ is the angle between the direction of propagation of the wave and the direction of the magnetic field. As is well known,^{2,6} when $\omega \approx \omega_+$ the index of refraction for the extraordinary wave n_2 become very large and a plasma wave can appear. When $\omega \approx m\omega_H^e \approx \omega_+$ and $m = 3, 4$ the complex indices of refraction for these waves, determined from the dispersion equation which has been reported earlier,² are

$$n' = n_{2,3} + i\kappa_{2,3},$$

where

$$n_{2,3}^2 = \{-A_0 \pm (A_0^2 - 4\beta_e^2 B_0 A_1)^{1/2}\} / 2\beta_e^2 A_1 \gg 1,$$

$$\kappa_{2,3} = \sigma_m^e \sin^2 \theta (1 - u_e) n_{2,3}^3 (2B_0 + A_0 n_{2,3}^2)^{-1},$$

$$B_0 = (2 - v_e) u_e - 2(1 - v_e)^2 - u_e v_e \cos^2 \theta,$$

$$A_1 = -v_e \{3 \cos^4 \theta (1 - u_e) + \cos^2 \theta \sin^2 \theta (6 - 3u_e + u_e^2) \times (1 - u_e)^{-2} + 3 \sin^4 \theta (1 - 4u_e)^{-1}\},$$

$$\sigma_m^e = \frac{\sqrt{\pi} m^{2m-2} \sin^{2m-2} \theta \Omega_e^2}{2^{m+1/2} m! \cos \theta \omega_H^e} (\beta_e n_{2,3})^{2m-3} \exp(-z_m^e),$$

$$z_m^e = (1 - m\omega_H^e / \omega) (\sqrt{2} \beta_e n_{2,3} \cos \theta)^{-1}, \quad \beta_e = (T_e / m_e c^2)^{1/2}, \quad (1)$$

T_e is the temperature of the electron gas and m_e is the mass of the electron. If, however, $\omega \approx 2\omega_H^e \approx \omega_+$,

$\text{Re } n' \sim \text{Im } n' \sim \beta_e^{-1/2}$ for $|1 - 2\omega_H^e/\omega| \leq \beta_e^{1/2}$, $|A_0|^3 \leq \beta_e^2$.

We now consider cases of ion cyclotron resonance. If $\omega \approx \omega_H^i$, the indices of refraction for the ordinary and extraordinary waves (when $\beta_{ic} \ll V_A \ll c$) are given by the expressions

$$n_1^2 = N_+^2 = \frac{1 + \cos^2 \theta}{\cos^2 \theta} \frac{c^2/V_A^2}{u_i - 1}, \quad n_2^2 = N_-^2 = \frac{c^2/V_A^2}{1 + \cos^2 \theta}, \quad (2)$$

where $c^2/V_A^2 = (\Omega_i/\omega_H^i)^2$ (the subscript i used in the quantity f_i denotes the quantity f_e with the electron mass replaced by the ion mass m_i and the temperature of electron gas replaced by the ion temperature T_i). The expression for n_1 given in (2) applies when $|1 - \omega_H^i/\omega| \gg \beta_{iN_+} \cos \theta$; in this case the cyclotron damping of the ordinary wave is exponentially small. When $|1 - \omega_H^i/\omega| \ll \beta_{iN_+} \cos \theta$ however, this wave is highly damped:

$$n_1' = n_1 + i\alpha_1 = \frac{\sqrt{3} + i}{2} \left\{ \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{8}} \frac{c^2(1 + \cos^2 \theta)}{V_A^2 \beta_i \cos^3 \theta} \right\}^{1/2}. \quad (3)$$

The extraordinary wave also experiences cyclotron absorption:

$$\alpha_2 = \beta_i N_-^2 \cos \theta \sin^4 \theta \exp(-z_1^2) / \sqrt{8\pi} |\omega(z_1^i)|^2 (1 + \cos^2 \theta)^2, \quad (4)$$

where

$$z_1^i = (1 - \omega_H^i/\omega) (\sqrt{2} \beta_i N_- \cos \theta)^{-1},$$

$$\omega(z) = e^{-z^2} \left(1 + \frac{2i}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^z e^{t^2} dt \right).$$

The extraordinary wave is weakly damped: $\kappa_2 \ll N_-$ since $\beta_{iN_-} \ll 1$. When $\beta_{ic} \sim V_A$ propagation of both waves is impossible because of the strong damping: $n_{1,2} \sim \kappa_{1,2} \sim 1/\beta_i$ if $\omega \sim \omega_H^i$.

In the case of multiple resonances

$$\omega \approx m\omega_H^i, \quad m = 2, 3, \dots, \quad n_{1,2}' = N_{\pm} + i\alpha_{1,2},$$

where

$$N_{\pm}^2 = \{\varepsilon_{11}(1 + \cos^2 \theta) \mp [\varepsilon_{11}^2(1 + \cos^2 \theta)^2 - 4 \cos^2 \theta (\varepsilon_{11}^2 + \varepsilon_{12}^2)]^{1/2}\} / 2 \cos^2 \theta, \quad (5)$$

$$\alpha_{1,2} = \sigma_m^i N_{\pm} \{ (1 + \cos^2 \theta) N_{\pm}^2 - 2\varepsilon_{11} - 2i\varepsilon_{12} \} \{ 2 \cos^2 \theta N_{\pm}^4 - \varepsilon_{11}(1 + \cos^2 \theta) N_{\pm}^2 \}^{-1}, \quad (6)$$

$$\sigma_m^i = \frac{\sqrt{\pi} m^{2m-2} \sin^{2m-2} \theta c^2}{2^{m+1/2} m! \cos \theta V_A^2} (\beta_i N_{\pm})^{2m-3} \exp(-z_m^i),$$

$$z_m^i = (1 - m\omega_H^i/\omega) (\sqrt{2} \beta_i N_{\pm} \cos \theta)^{-1}, \quad \varepsilon_{11} = 1 - v_i/(1 - u_i),$$

$$\varepsilon_{12} = -iv_i/\sqrt{u_i}(1 - u_i).$$

If $|z_m^i| \lesssim 1$, then $\kappa_{1,2}/N_{\pm} \sim (\beta_i N_{\pm})^{2m-3}$.

Waves characterized by frequencies $\omega \sim \omega_H^i$

(ω not necessarily close to $m\omega_H^i$) are also damped as a consequence of absorption in the electron gas (Landau damping). The refractive indices for these waves are given by Eq. (5) and the damping coefficients are

$$\alpha_{2,3}/N_{\pm} = \text{Im} \left\{ \frac{1}{\varepsilon_{33}} [\varepsilon_{11} \sin^2 \theta N_{\pm}^4 + (2\varepsilon_{12}\varepsilon_{23} \cos \theta \sin \theta - \varepsilon_{23}^2 \cos^2 \theta - (\varepsilon_{11}^2 + \varepsilon_{12}^2) \sin^2 \theta) N_{\pm}^2 + \varepsilon_{11}\varepsilon_{23}^2] + \varepsilon_{22} (\varepsilon_{11} - \cos^2 \theta N_{\pm}^2) \right\} \times \{ 2\varepsilon_{11}(1 + \cos^2 \theta) N_{\pm}^2 - 4 \cos^2 \theta N_{\pm}^4 \}^{-1}, \quad (7)$$

where

$$\varepsilon_{23} = -i \tan \theta v_i (1 + i\sqrt{\pi} z_0^e \omega(z_0^e)) / \sqrt{u_i},$$

$$\varepsilon_{22} = i 2\sqrt{\pi} (m_e/m_i) \sin^2 \theta v_i z_0^e \omega(z_0^e) \beta_e^2 N_{\pm}^2 / u_i,$$

$$\varepsilon_{33} = (2m_i/m_e) v_i (z_0^e)^2 (1 + i\sqrt{\pi} z_0^e \omega(z_0^e)),$$

$$z_0^e = (\sqrt{2} \beta_e N_{\pm} \cos \theta)^{-1}.$$

The damping (7) is small; $\kappa_{2,3} \ll N_{\pm}$. Even if $|z_0^e| \lesssim 1$, i.e., $V_A \sim \beta_e c$, we find $\kappa_{2,3}/N_{\pm} \sim m_e/m_i$.

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CURVES FOR THE PHOTOPROTON YIELD FROM THE C^{12} NUCLEUS

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A previously described¹ scintillation telescope was used to investigate the dependence of the photo-